news | entertainment | people | sport

FREE

Crewkerne
WEEKENDER

Issue 71

February 3 2012

Something's cooking

IN THE MIX: Tom Wade-Allison whips up his white chocolate dessert - SEE PAGE 8

The show must go on!

page 4

DAVID LAWS MP for Yeovil Constituency Advice Centres

Friday 3 February
Appointments at the Constituency Office, 5 Church Street, **YEOVIL** *From 4pm*

Saturday 4 February
Appointments at the Forefront Community Centre, 42 Fore Street, **CHARD** *From 9am*

Friday 17 February
Appointments at the Constituency Office, 5 Church Street, **YEOVIL** *From 4pm*

Saturday 18 February
Ile Youth Ctr, Frog Lane **ILMINSTER** *9.00 - 10.00*
Crewkerne Community Office,Town Hall, Market Square, **CREWKERNE** 11.00 to 12.00noon

Please contact the office (01935 423284) for assistance or to book an appointment for Yeovil or Chard, or if you would like to see David Laws in Ilminster or Crewkerne.

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weekenderweather

Friday 3rd February	Saturday 4th February	Sunday 5th February	Monday 6th February
Partly Cloudy High 2° Low -4°	Mostly Sunny High 3° Low -2°	Snow High 5° Low 2°	Light Rain High 7° Low 3°

Tuesday 7th February	Wednesday 8th February	Thursday 9th February
Light Rain High 8° Low 5°	Cloudy High 9° Low 5°	Mostly Cloudy High 9° Low 5°

Please remember to recycle this newspaper

weekenderannouncements

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Happy 21st Birthday on the 9th Feb.
Love Mum and Dad

BRIAN GOODING (70)
Happy 70th birthday to a dear husband and dad. All our love always, from Vinnie, Adam & Nathaniel. Love you lots. xxx

STUART TURNER (21)
Happy 21st Birthday on 6th February.
Love Mum, Dad and Family

GARY TRUSSON (40)
4/2/12 Happy 40th Birthday Gary! Much love, Helen, Lewis, Nathan, Sienna and all the family xxx

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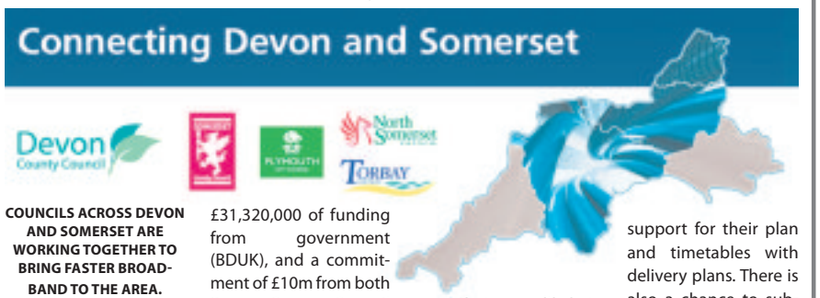
Website of the week

http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/



COUNCILS ACROSS DEVON AND SOMERSET ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO BRING FASTER BROADBAND TO THE AREA.

The Connecting Devon and Somerset project covers Plymouth, Torbay, Devon County Council, Somerset County Council and North Somerset areas.

With a successful bid for £31,320,000 of funding from government (BDUK), and a commitment of £10m from both Devon County Council and Somerset County Council, work is underway to procure and deliver improved broadband for rural Devon and Somerset – the "final third" – rural areas that are unlikely to benefit from commercial investment in broadband.

At www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk you can find a summary briefing, including details of their aims and targets, support for their plan and timetables with delivery plans. There is also a chance to subscribe to their newsletter to keep yourself updated with all the current information. To contact the Project Team directly, visit the website today.

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Go ahead for sports centre

By Alex Alexander

THE countdown to construction of the George Reynolds sports and youth facility has begun.

The contract to build the £850,000 centre in the middle of Crewkerne can be signed by the Mayor Neil Sturtivant on Monday week (February 13th).

Work will be able to start 21 days later on March 5th. And, if all goes to plan, the centre will be finished by mid-October this year.

The timeline emerged this week when civic chiefs took the bold step to apply for a £150,000 government-backed bridging loan.

The move enables the project to progress even though the council is still waiting for the sale of its West One centre to Haven Health.

There were smiles all round at the town hall on Monday night when councillors unanimously agreed to proceed.

They did so after receiving a positive report from town clerk Jeanne Warner.

She told the meeting: "I have been gathering information with regard to funding. Last year, because we thought there might be a delay in Section 106 monies, we were granted the opportunity to take up a bridging loan.

"We had confirmation today from South Somerset District Council that, not only is the Section 106 money in place, but they have sent an offer today of a grant of £50,000 towards the scheme."

She said the total sum from South Somerset would come to £292,719.

Mrs Warner revealed that the town council was still in a position to apply for a £150,000 bridging loan from the Public Works Loan Board at an interest rate of just 1.3 per cent.

And in a written report to councillors, she said the remaining project monies would be met by a £10,000 grant from Somerset Youth Service; a £113,000 gift from the Crewkerne Sports Club; and £353,745 from the town council's own reserves.

Councillor Neil Sturtivant told the meeting: "The funding is in place for the building - all bar £3,000, which I'm sure we can find."

Councillor Angie Singleton welcomed the clerk's update on the project's financial status and the possibility of obtaining the bridging loan.

She said: "This gives us the opportunity to move the project forward. I propose that the town council take up that option."

Councillor Mike Best added: "We have to move forward before the cost of building materials go up again. We have got to seize the bull by the horns and move forward."

In a rapid series of votes, members unanimously agreed, first, to apply for the bridging loan; next, to spend £27,850 on demolishing the town's ageing sports club buildings; and, finally, to authorise the mayor to sign the construction contract with Yeovil builders CS Williams.

The clerk closed the meeting by telling members: "The contract will come to the council on February 13th.

"If it's signed that night, the commencement date will be March 5th. And it's a 32-week build."

Speaking after the meeting, Councillor Sturtivant said: "Everyone in the town will be very happy."

Plan for more space at Henhayes Centre

TOWN councillors have given their blessing to a £120,000 expansion of the Henhayes Centre in the middle of Crewkerne.

Gathering for their monthly meeting last week, they signalled their approval for a scheme that will result in a 17 per cent increase in the footprint of the community centre, which hosts dozens of social events and activities for the over-55s every month.

The application states: "It is proposed to extend the existing entrance canopy in order to provide a fully enclosed entrance lobby with dual access doors, with the repositioning of the entrance providing greater visibility.

"The extension allows a much improved reception area and an additional multi-function room to the side.

"The relocation of the reception area frees up space to create additional room for much needed storage.

"A separate enclosed external bin store will also be provided adjacent to the extension."

Henhayes trustee Chairman Rosemary Prince urged town councillors to support the scheme when she addressed them during the public forum session at the start of their meeting.

She said: "We are applying for this for four reasons.

"First, heat loss. We've had difficulty maintaining the heat during cold weather.

"Second, flood prevention. We have twice had floods. By moving the front door to the south, any floodwater should bypass the building.

"Storage - there's a desperate need for storage space for equipment.

"More space - now that the centre is being used more, we need more space."

She added that the new extension had also been designed to improve the look of the building.

And re-siting the main door from facing west to south should also "prevent people hanging around".

"There will be less space for people to gather and loiter," she said.

Some concern had been expressed about young people climbing on the proposed new bin store and into neighbouring property.

But Mrs Prince added: "The refuse bins will be locked with access from the front. And we are quite prepared to grow prickly shrubs, if necessary."

She indicated that there was no immediate target date for the proposed works, adding: "We don't have the money to do the proposed works, but we are seeking grant aid.

"We need planning permission first."

• Town councillors signalled their support for the scheme. South Somerset District Council planners are due to decide the application by the middle of February.

Council grants to local organisations

LOCAL good causes are set to receive a boost to their funds, thanks to council tax-payers living in Crewkerne.

Members of the town council last week approved nearly £17,000 worth of grants, earmarked for nine organisations.

The awards are to:

- Henhayes Centre: £1,500.
- Heritage Centre: £1,500.
- West One youth centre: £10,250.
- A Better Crewkerne and District (ABCD): £580.
- Crewkerne Local Information Centre: £144.
- Crewkerne United Dramatic and Operatic Society (CUDOS): £500.
- South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau: £2,000.
- Town Crier (honorarium to David Craner): £300.

■ OH YEZ: Crewkerne Town Crier David Craner is to receive a £300 honorarium to help defray the costs involved in looking the part

- Crewkerne Twinning Association: £150.

The grants will be awarded at the council's Annual Meeting on May 21st.

They come to £16,924 in total.

W news briefing

Roundham House plans

COUNCILLORS signalled their approval for redevelopment of a former town-centre factory, provided their concerns about fire safety can be allayed.

Members spent several minutes debating the merits of the proposal to transform Roundham House in Oxen Road.

The owners are seeking permission to change part of the property into six apartments, with the retention of two commercial units.

Councillor Angie Singleton described the proposal as "an expensive project to bring forward", adding: "It's a building that's stood empty for a long time. It's part of Crewkerne's heritage."

But town councillors were not entirely happy with the proposal before them.

Several voiced concerns about the lack of an external fire escape, with one member warning that should the internal staircase become smoke-logged, people could become trapped upstairs.

Councillor Singleton voiced the fears of several colleagues when she highlighted doubts about the amount of "over-looking" for new residents, the amount of natural light inside the building, and the suitability of the proposed internal fire escape proposed by the architects.

She said that among the councillors who had inspected the site, "our main concern was fire safety and the escape mechanism".

Chairman Neil Sturtivant invited the scheme agent to address the meeting.

The agent said: "There's one internal means of escape. We believe that's adequate, but we might need to install a sprinkler system.

"I don't anticipate a second escape point out of the building."

Members signalled their approval for the scheme "subject to something addressing fire safety concerns".

First apprentice

DURING Nation Apprenticeship Week, Crewkerne Town Council would like to sing the praises of their first ever apprentice, Lewis Warren whom they said is working out very well.

■ LEARNING THE ROPES: Crewkerne Town Council apprentice Lewis about to start some brushcutting on Bincombe

The 18-year-old started working for the council in September and he attends the Yeovil Lufton campus of Bridgwater College every Wednesday where he is studying for a Level two Diploma in Horticulture.

Lewis said: "Since starting work I have prepared and planted the flower beds and planters in the town centre as well as carrying out planting in Happy Valley and Bincombe Nature Reserve. Also I help with the general maintenance of the council's grounds and properties. I am really enjoying what I do and like being part of a team"

Crewkerne Town Council property and projects officer Jed Dunn, praised Lewis for his enthusiasm and his willingness to 'get stuck in' to anything he is asked to do. He commented : "He is a great asset to the council's hardworking grounds and amenities team."

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Future of civic society in doubt

By Alex Alexander

A GROUP that champions the quality of life in Crewkerne is in urgent need of reviving, so it can play an active part in the Government's "Big Society".

The Crewkerne Civic Society is about to turn 40 but is beginning to run out of puff, according to Chairman Martin Pakes.

In a bid to breathe new life into the group, retired town planner Mr Pakes has called a public meeting to debate the way ahead and stave-off a looming "crisis".

He said: "The society is facing one of its most challenging years in its history. It is facing a real crisis if cannot find members to take on the various roles of the committee.

"The society has had its highs and lows, but it has always managed to survive. We may not be so lucky next year.

"Whether we agree with the 'Big Society' or not, the Crewkerne Civic Society inevitably will be drawn into more and more planning and development issues. So it is important that the society is strong and able to play its part. We feel it is an appropriate time to have an open discussion within the town on the society's future role and direction.

"We are asking whether Crewkerne needs a civic society and, if so, how it needs to change so we can maintain it as a sustainable organisation.

"This is an important question not just for our members but also for the town as a whole."

Future options for the society will the subject of public debate at an "Open Forum" meeting next week.

The society, which has about 200 members, was founded in 1973 with the aim of working with the local authority and other groups to conserve and enhance the town. It has helped protect several important buildings from demolition and supported new developments that have improved the local economy and environment.

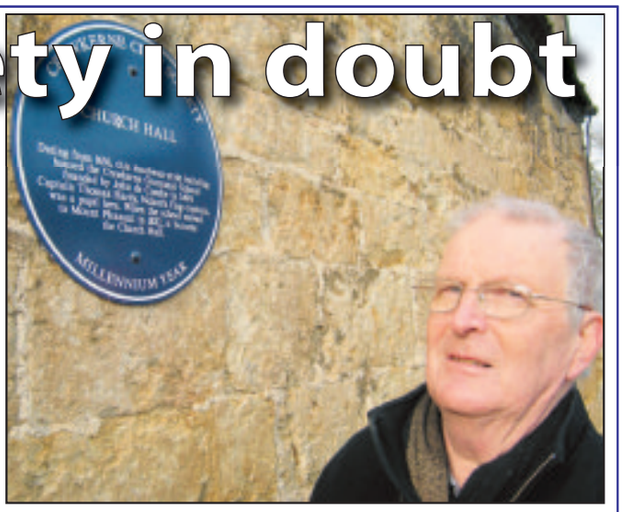
The society, which is a registered charity, also has an important role in raising awareness of the history and architectural heritage of the town.

It was instrumental in getting the town centre designated as a conservation area.

It has published town trails, town guides and walks packs. And in the millennium year it installed 18 blue plaques on buildings of local significance.

Civic society members also had the vision to set up the town's Museum and Heritage Centre.

• The Open Forum meeting takes place in the Henhayes Centre at 7.30pm on Wednesday next week (February 8th). Everyone is welcome.



■ GLORIOUS PAST: But civic society Chairman Martin Pakes is worried about the group's future

King Cactus is a real trouper

A TOWN hall drama nearly turned into a crisis when the panto King in Sleeping Beauty fainted backstage as the final curtain came down.

Worried members of the cast called an ambulance when His Highness keeled over last week - for real - at the end of the Tuesday-night dress rehearsal.

But King Cactus, played by Pete Drury, was soon back on his feet and went on to deliver right royal performances for the entire four-day run.

Panto director Ann Brolly said the team's first concern was for Mr Drury's health.

"The King passed-out backstage. He fainted.

"We called the ambulance, but he was absolutely fine and was able to perform for the rest of the week."

She admitted having a moment of mild anxiety when she realised that a royal understudy might have to be recruited at short notice, crammed with lines, and properly kitted-out with a costume to fit.

But, fortunately, King Cactus was made of sterner stuff and decided not to abdicate at the eleventh hour.

This year's production by the Crewkerne United Dramatic and Operatic Society played in front of packed houses on the Friday and Saturday nights, with only a fraction of the seats unsold on the Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Mrs Brolly said that for the time of year, the numbers supporting the panto had been excellent.

And, judging by the laughs, everyone who went thoroughly enjoyed the performance, she said.

"It was just such a colourful show. It went very well, indeed.

"There were a couple of moments that the audience wouldn't have noticed. I did!

"But, we have got some very, very talented people."

Production assistant Wendy Elliot, who was working feverishly backstage throughout, added: "We've had really positive feedback from people who saw it.

"Everyone thought it was a funny script and that the whole thing was slick and fast-moving."

■ ALL'S WELL: The key characters take a bow. They are (back row, from left) Muddles (Amanda Perry), Fetch (Rob Stephens), Prince Alexis (Lucy Perry), Nurse Dottie Dettol (Martin Singleton), Princess Rose (Vikki Rolley), Queen Marigold (Helen Wickens), King Cactus (Pete Drury), with (front row) Good Fairy Lilac (Leonie Dash) and Bad Witch Hazel (Heidi Scott)

■ GRAB A BARGAIN: Manager Kate Wells, 25, is looking forward to welcoming rummagers to Crewkerne's new Children's Society shop

New fundraising shop

THE newest shop in Crewkerne is about to throw open its doors to bargain-hunters.

The Children's Society charity shop starts trading this coming Monday on the corner of Church Street and Market Street.

New manager Kate Wells, from Yeovil, said the shop had got off to a flying start even before it opens, as 20 people had already come forward as volunteer sales staff.

"We're amazed. Twenty volunteers in a week is fantastic!

"We've also had lots of donations of items to sell. People have been knocking on the door every day."

The charity's regional manager Val Newbold added: "We are getting a really nice community feel in Crewkerne. We've had a brilliant response so far."

She said the shop would be "an Aladdin's cave" of quality goods at bargain prices.

"It's the perfect place to hunt for basics and be inspired by unusual pieces."

Crewkerne Mayor Neil Sturtivant will be doing the opening honours on Monday morning at 10.30am with a little audible help from Town Crier Dave Craner.

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It's all in the stars

STAR GAZING: Jeremy Hanscomb pinpoints the stars with a laser pen

WORKING IT OUT : Families made constellations with tea lights

CLOUD cover parted just in time for families to enjoy the annual Stargazing and Storytelling evening held at Redstart Primary School in Chard.

The evening was co-ordinated by teacher Jeremy Handscomb in conjunction with members of Crewkerne and District Astronomy Society, who brought along some very impressive telescopes.

Pupils of Redstart School and their families, were treated to an exciting evening of celestial celebrations for the third year running and this time the school teamed up with the local astronomy group and the BBC to bring the wonders of the stars a little closer to home.

All the children had information packs from the BBC and the teachers agreed that the Stargazing Live programmes on the television had enthused many of the children to be more interested in the subject.

Some of the classrooms and the grounds were divided into areas with different activities, and families visited each area in rotation while some

YUMMY TREATS: Hot chocolate and marshmallows around the camp fire

by Marion Draper

very spacey music was played over a loudspeaker.

On offer was a guided tour of the galaxy with Mr Handscomb out on the school field, where he used a laser pen to point out the constellations. There was a flurry of excitement when a shooting star was seen.

The weather had been cloudy but by the time things got going just after 6pm, it was clear and starry night with a good view for everyone.

Also on the field, inside the school's very own teepee, Mrs Phil Evans was telling stories about the stars. In the forest school area there was a cosy campfire where people could stop off, enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and toast marshmallows.

Just outside the classrooms there were glass jars with tea lights and with the help of photographs of the constellations, the visitors were challenged to arrange the lights to create the star patterns.

Indoors there was an inflatable planetarium and the chance to look through a telescope with CADAS chairman Ron Westmass and his colleague Mike Egan.

Mr Handscomb said: "The evening was a real success and we were absolutely thrilled to have clear skies."

More information about other local stargazing events can be found at www.cadas.net.

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Merriott Post Office under threat

By Marion Draper

OWNERS of the filling station, Post Office and store at Merriott, Phil and Michelle Venn, who are still reeling from a recent attempted burglary at the property, are having to rethink their operation.

Despite the popularity of the Post Office since they took it over, it is not paying its way in terms of extra staffing requirements, leaving the couple with a dilemma.

Mr Venn said: "We have managed to get our fuel turnover up, through keeping prices down, hence attracting more customers. We appreciate the extra support from our customers to do this; which hopefully will keep Texaco happy and we may get a reasonable deal from them next January when our contract is up for renewal.

Unfortunately trade in the shop has not increased by any extent, so it is not helping us, as profits on the fuel have obviously decreased through lowering prices. This is a concern as it is difficult times for any business, with people guarding how much they spend.

"Our other issue is the Post Office. We enjoy providing the service and it is a communal hub for much of the village at times. However, it is costing us money to provide this service. Every month we are losing money, as we get far less in remuneration from Post Office Ltd than we pay our staff that run it. This wasn't such a problem when the rest of the business was performing well but since fuel prices have continually risen, the business has suffered badly.

"The problem lies in the fact that a Post Office local is designed to be run by the existing staff of a small shop, not by employing extra staff, then it would be a small extra income for the business. That is not possible with our business because our shop and forecourt is too busy to be able to run the Post Office with the same staff and the petrol forecourt has to be monitored closely at all times.

"We have talked with a Post Office representative with regard to getting increased remuneration, to no avail. He said that we should be able to run it without extra staff, and no extra can be paid.

"We have had a meeting with David Laws MP who has taken details and is going to explore all avenues to see if anything can be done to improve matters. If nothing can be done we do not want to close the Post Office, because we feel the village needs it; but something will have to change.

"We welcome any letters to David Laws about this - every little helps - as they say. (These can be dropped into our garage to forward to him if you prefer).

Finally, we would like to thank all the villagers who offered help and support after the robbery at our premises recently. It is comforting that people are supportive during difficult times. Thank you."

■ POST OFFICE DILEMMA : Michelle and Phil Venn hoping for a solution

■ DON'T TAKE OUR FREEDOM: David Laws MP and residents of Winsham objecting to county council bus cuts

Another village facing bus cuts

FOLLOWING on from the protest over cuts in the Merriott bus service, Winsham villagers banded to together to add their objections last Friday and made a formal protest at the bus stop.

The bus that currently passes through the village every two hours except on Sundays, from 7.15am until 6.15pm, is actually part of the same service being cut from Merriott and being even further from vital services the residents fear isolation.

When MP David Laws arrived, he was surrounded by the angry and distressed villagers of all ages, some of whom were waiting for the bus that morning to get to the doctors' surgery in Chard.

Shirley Stone of Davies Close complained: "The Government want people to give up their cars and it wasn't that long ago they were all wanting us to use public transport. My husband has just been diagnosed with heart trouble and I can't drive, he needs to get to the doctor's and we can't afford to shell out for a taxi."

David and Angela Fry said:"It costs £20 to get to Chard by taxi, what happens if you don't have a car? We do have our village shop but it can't stock everything. The service we have now is very reliable and once you get to Chard you have a 20 minute wait to get another to Taunton."

Parish councillor Trish Baxter said:" It was the way they sneaked it in after Christmas with a tiny poster in the New Year and a cut-off date of January 17th that has got us really angry and Winsham is a large village. How are people supposed to get to work or the doctors and dentists. The county council say we should use the Slinky bus but if you book three weeks ahead, you might be in with a chance. They spent all that money on the park and ride in Taunton and want to take our bus away.

"The 99 service could come through Clapton and Winsham instead of just going over Windwhistle. They said they can't do the turn from Clapton but they go into Severalls in Crewkerne alright . That would be a good alternative and would increase traffic.

"Most of us would be willing to pay 50p a trip if it meant we kept our bus."

Mr Laws said David Cameron had made an election promise not to change the bus pass system so they couldn't go back on that by charging 50p to bus pass holders. He recommended they get as many signatures as possible on a petition which he was happy to take to the county council on their behalf.

Boys out talk girls at Junior Youth Speaks competition

by Marion Draper

FOR the first time in many years, an all-boy team won a highly entertaining Junior Youth Speaks competition, held by the Rotary Club of Ilminster at Swanmead School, making it a win for a home team for the second year running.

The competition, sponsored by Greenslade Taylor Hunt, introduced teams of three who argued their chosen subjects, which ranged from the horrors of underage drinking to looking after our wildlife.

They were marked on their speaking ability knowledge of subject, presentation and teamwork.

This year's line-up of six teams were from Combe St Nicholas Primary School, Neroche Primary School and Swanmead Community School, providing two teams each. Previous competitors, Buckland St Mary Primary were absent and Maiden Beech Academy, Crewkerne were last seen at the competition as the winners in 2010.

The winners, Swanmead team one, were the final speakers of the evening with the subject "Inequality of pay".

Chairman Ryan Jeffrey introduced his speaker Scott Hooper and proposer Tom Singleton in a jovial manner, explaining they were all keen footballers who played for Ilminster. They thought the vast sums of money paid to their heroes such as Wayne Rooney were unfair. The speaker went on to explain their reasoning, comparing the millions of pounds paid to footballers and film stars with the lesser wages of soldiers and firefighters who are prepared to risk life and limb for others along with nurses who deserved more respect.

Runners up were Neroche two, Florence Busby, Charlotte Jane and William King, who argued that television could be good for children if they were watching the right types of programme and blamed parents of preschoolers who let them watch too much to keep them pacified.

The three adjudicators; Charles Clark, Sue Back and Anna Bowerman have given their time to the contest for many years now.

Mr Clark from Greenslade Taylor Hunt said: "We get plenty of requests for sponsorship and this is a pleasure to do, thanks to the Rotary Club for keeping it going.

"I have spent more than 30 years auctioneering and public speaking and, other than meeting your future mother-in-law, there is nothing that makes you more nervous and nothing like the buzz you feel afterwards.

"Tonight was the highest, most consistent standard we have had, and to see all the children giving their best and doing well was an absolute delight. You all looked like a team and were very smart.

"There were 100 marks in total and they were so close tonight that the marks for the proposer were critical. It was a terrific standard and I hope you all keep it up in some form, performing on a live stage is very rewarding."

There were additional prizes suggested by Mr Clark who said he would supply tokens for best individual girl and boy.

Speaker Olivia Coles from Combe St Nicholas one won for her fluent rendering of statistics on healthy eating and Chairman Ryan Jeffrey from the winning team won for his entertaining remarks.

The winners and all participants were given certificates by the Rotary Club of Ilminster president, Deryk Outram who thanked them for their participation and their teachers for helping them prepare, the judges for giving their time, Greenslade Taylor Hunt for their sponsorship, Swanmead for the use of the facilities and Rotarian Stuart Shepherd, chair of youth activities and his team for organising the event this year.

■ UNEQUAL PAY AND ANIMAL CRUELTY: Swanmead teams

■ THE DANGERS OF DRINK AND TV: Neroche teams one and two

■ WELL DONE: Front row: Runners up Neroche two, Olivia Coles, and the winners Swanmead one. Back row: Charles Clark, Sue Back, Rotary President Deryk Outram Anna Bowerman and Stuart Shepherd

■ TOP CHAPS: Swanmead winners Scott Hooper, Ryan Jeffrey and Tom Singleton with Charles Clark, Sue Back, Rotary President Deryk Outram, Anna Bowerman and Stuart Shepherd

■ FOODIE CONSERVATIONISTS: two teams from Combe St Nicholas

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Young chef is king of desserts

■ TASTE TEST: Lorraine Szczepanski checks her veggies

By Marion Draper

SIX years on from its pilot event, the Crewkerne Rotary Club Young Chefs' Competition held at Wadham School was won by 16-year-old Ethan Ives, from Ilminster.

He beat last year's winner, Sam Clarke from Crewkerne, with his mouth-watering combination of English and Irish fish pie followed by white chocolate formed into a collar and filled with vanilla mascarpone with a raspberry compote.

At the competition, held lat Saturday, Ethan was stunned and very pleased to have won, having joked in the kitchen that he did not want to be named last. He attends a work placement at Monks Yard, in Ilminster, where he works in the kitchen two days a week and is heading for an apprenticeship at Somerset College of Arts and Technology in Taunton.

His mother, Monica Ives, said she was extremely proud. " I do cook, but this is a real passion of his, he gets a lot of help from Monks Yard and cooks at home as well."

Sam, who took second place, was a real novice in the kitchen when he wowed the judges last year. He showed his passion for the contest again when, despite cutting his thumb quite badly, insisted on being patched up enough to carry on. Sam was given extra time to finish his entry of chicken kievs and chocolate melting puds, while fellow contestant Casper Paine stepped in to do his washing up.

The other competitors were; Tom Wade-Allison, Lorraine Szczepanski, Callum Watts and Tom Johnson.

The menus went back to two courses this year. Last year's competition ran to three courses to prepare the chefs for the tougher regional contest but with costs in mind it was dropped back.

Regular judges Maureen Fasan, of the White Lion Carvery, and Kath Kersley, from the George Hotel, were joined by former teacher Mandy Charles. The judges said the standard was one of the highest yet with a really good range of well presented food and that their job would have been much harder had some of the entrants not failed to complete their costings and planning sheets. This costly oversight left them ten points down on the others before they even started to cook.

The chefs were marked on their preparation in the kitchen and how tidy they kept their work stations as well as taste and presentation. The tables also had to be laid for two, with a menu of the dishes they had prepared. The two course option allowed for either a starter or a sweet with the main meal.

Organiser, Rotarian Tony Warren congratulated all the contestants on their very high standards and real concentration, focussing on the task even with the slight disturbance in the kitchen.

President David Welch said: "We wouldn't be able to have this event without the competitors and were very happy to have seven this year. Kate must be very proud of her students, and she made a very good commis for Sam.

"Every year, I am amazed at the diligence of the judges who spend a lot of time here on the day as well as reading the notes in preparation, a special thank you to Mandy who was only asked on Wednesday to be here."

Wadham School business manager, Sheila Taylor, spoke in place of the headteacher who was involved in Ten Tors training. She said: "The standard of food I have seen prepared here puts my cooking to shame, they are a credit to themselves and Mrs Hodge for her standards of teaching. Thank you to Rotary for your continued support of the school."

The winner from Wadham will go on to compete in Wincanton on February 25th. The winner will go through to the regional finals.

■ GOLDEN BROWN: Callum Watts fries his arancini

■ PRESENTATION COUNTS: Tom Johnson at his finished table

■ DETERMINED TO FINISH: 2011 winner Sam Clarke after the professional services of uncle Paul Clarke

■ END OF A LONG DAY: Young11 Chefs with judges and Crewkerne Rotarians

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Estelle gets her diamond back

SIXTY years of marriage brought more than just a diamond celebration for Ilminster resident Estelle Coles.

The lucky lady was surprised by husband John with a new engagement ring to replace her original one, stolen in a burglary at their old address.

The couple held a double celebration last week, with a gathering of widowed friends at their home on their actually anniversary, Thursday January 26th and a second party for couples on Sunday at the Shrubbery Hotel. Their family attended both events.

The couple, both in their early 80s are well known in the town.

John worked for Minsterstone for 23 years before doing his National Service as a training NCO in the Royal Engineers after which he joined the electricity industry.

A keen footballer playing for several local teams in his youth, John also served as a retained firefighter for 24 years and became their national president.

He was a member of the Ilminster and District Lions Club for 15 years and is known as Ilminster's unofficial historian due to his family history and a good memory for dates.

Estelle came to Ilminster in 1949 from Paignton to work as a civil servant in pensions and National Insurance and admits she didn't like the change at first, but John and the community won her over and she said she now loves Ilminster and wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

After time out to bring up their three girls, she went back to work at Marshalsea's Garage before moving to Gooch and Housego and then Phoenix Engineering in Chard.

The couple met at a dance in the George Hotel and were married at the Minster, holding their reception at the hotel where they met.

Heartache hit them in 1995 when they lost their daughter Angela at the tender age of 20 after a long illness.

The couple received nearly 40 cards for their anniversary, including one from the Queen and were delighted with the gift of a family portrait of their two remaining daughters, Alison and Carolyn with their children Callum, Aiden and Abbie.

When asked the secret of a long marriage, John said respect was the key and Estelle was his great passion, despite her tiny form. In reply, she commented: "We have never really fallen out that badly, I never packed my bags.

"I was so pleased with my ring. We had gone into Stokers to look at having my other rings re-sized and I had admired this one. Unbeknown to me he sneaked back and put a deposit on it and they held it until he needed it. Everyone, including the ladies at Stokers kept the secret very well, I gave John got a signet ring as well. I was just glad to have him here, he has a bad heart and there was a time I thought he wouldn't see this day."

John replied: "I was determined to still be here and now I need another target."

The couple took donations for Breast Cancer Relief and the cardiac care unit at Musgrove Park Hospital, at both their gatherings and were very pleased to have totals of £200 and £250 respectively.

Speaking on Monday the diamond duo said they had enjoyed a wonderful week, topped off by the party on Sunday and were recharging their batteries.

They would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and donations.

■ **DIAMOND COUPLE: Estelle and John Coles with their new family portrait and congratulations card from the Queen**

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RETIRED art teacher Anne Shirley was asked to take over as the chairman of the trustees for the David Hall in South Petherton in November 2010 after the previous chairman, Tony Charman, stepped down.

Known as the small hall with a big reputation, it has become a hub for folk and other live music and theatrical entertainment, as well as being a valuable community hall for everything from coffee mornings to film showings.

Their first poetry competition last year was a resounding success.

After 34 years of living in the village, the former Londoner said it feels like home and she would not want to live anywhere else.

Anne began volunteering at the hall about seven years ago, helping behind the bar. She was persuaded to go on the board and then stepped into the chairman's shoes, after he had done a three year stint, because she had time to give.

Although not musical herself, she loves to listen and dance.

● **WHAT do you like most about being involved with the trust?**
I love the vibrancy of the place, it is very warm and welcoming and we have a brilliant set of volunteers.

● **DO you have a preference for any of the performances?**
I love the traditional folk music. I am happy that we expanded into drama and the spoken word and I am actively trying to enlarge the scope of things we do but the folk will always be my personal favourite.

● **WHAT are the latest projects on the go?**
We have just started getting people to use our small conference room and we are adding to that facility with video equipment etc.

The main priority now is to get the front window replaced which we think will cost about £12,000 and we have to get permission from English Heritage because ideally it will be double glazed.

● **WHAT things would you want on your desert island?**
I would definitely want books, I love reference books and a good set of tools for gardening and DIY and some means of playing classical music, particularly Messenet.

● **DO you like to garden?**
Yes, I am a very keen gardener but on the live and let-live basis so it is very much a cottage garden. I don't weed much or dig much and make my own compost. I like to be as self-sufficient in vegetables as I can and have peach and apricot trees. I had a wonderful crop of apricots last year.

● **WHAT about hobbies?**
I am obsessive about DIY; my father left home when I was 16 and I came home one day and realised things needed doing that my mother was not fit to do, so I went down to the builders' merchant and asked how to do things and basically never stopped.

I have done a lot of stone work and completely re-built the wall around my cottage, I bought it because I had always wanted a stone cottage.

● **WHAT do you like about South Petherton?**
It is very friendly and I have always felt safe here. I love being able to walk down the road and say hello to people by name. There is always lots happening and it's really pretty, I just love it.

● **IF you could time travel where would you go?**
I think it would be lovely to go back and meet some of my old relatives. I have dabbled a little in geneology and think it would be very interesting.

● **DO you exercise much?**
I look after my son's dog while he is at work so I do a lot of dog walking, I like walking. I also like dancing and go to the country dances at Overstratton and Seavington.

● **WHICH is your favourite season?**
I love autumn, it's the colours that draw me. I used to do embroidery and batiks but have spent the last 20 years re-building my house.

● **HAVE you travelled much?**
I have a daughter in New Zealand but I would love to go to Canada in the autumn and take the train right across.

● **IF you won silly money, what would you do ?**
I would give a substantial amount to Kew Gardens for their millennium seed bank, they do a huge amount of work for the future.

Of course I would help the children and get rid of my mortgage but I wouldn't buy a sports car, I'm far too practical for that.

I would pay for the window at the David Hall straight away and enjoy being able to spread it around with donations here and there when I heard of something to give to.

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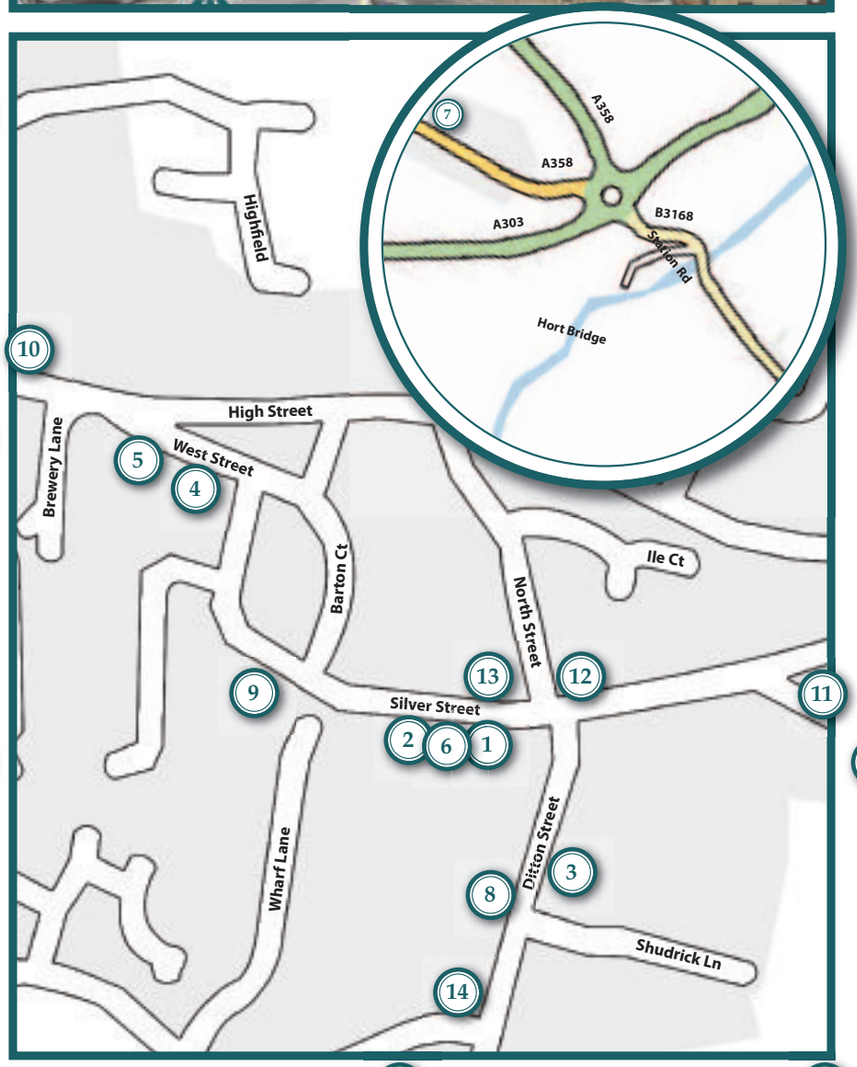

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Most of you know that Valentines Day is supposed to be a day to declare your love. It is the holiday that sells the most the greeting cards with the exception of Christmas and it is also a holiday where gifts of candy and flowers are freely and not so freely given as tokens of affection. Here are a few fact's about Valentine's day you may not know.

1. In reality, there were actually 3 St. Valentine's. One was a priest, one a bishop and one little is known about except he was a martyr. The stories of the priest's and bishop's martyrdom are so closely related it is difficult to tell which St. Valentine the Holiday is named after.

2. According to legend it was St. Valentine himself who sent the first valentine in the form of a letter to his jailer's blind daughter with whom he had fallen in love. Just before he was put to death at the hands of King Claudius II for marrying the kings soldiers without the king's permission he penned a note to his love and signed it: From your Valentine.

3. It is believed that a mount Holyoke college student by the name of Ester Howland created the first lace valentine in the United States from lace, ribbon and colorful pictures. She has become known as the Mother of the Valentine.

4. Teachers receive more valentine cards than anyone else, even children.

5. More than 650 million valentine cards are exchanged by children from ages 6-10 each year. Most of these cards are bought in the last 6 days leading up to Valentine's day.

6. Each year the city of Verona Italy receives more than 1000 valentine's addressed to Shakespeare's Juliet. It really is amazing how much affection a dead fictional character can attract.

7. It was once believed that if a woman saw a flying robin on Valentine's day she would end up getting married to a sailor. If a sparrow was the bird she saw she would end up marrying a man that was poor and live a happy life, if she saw a goldfinch then she was to marry a man that was a millionaire. One can only wonder who she would marry if she saw a crow.

8. In 1929 at the height of prohibition Al Capone ordered the killing of members of a rival gang run by Bugs Moran in Chicago on Valentines Day. Authorities were unable to find any real evidence to tie Capone to the crime and he was never arrested or tried for the murder of these seven men. Instead he served his time for tax evasion.

9. More than 9 million pet owners buy gifts for their pets for Valentine's day. Now that is what can be called real puppy love.

10. It is estimated that 15% of the women in the United States who receive flowers for Valentine's day send them to themselves. There are no figures that tell how many of these women are married, single or in a relationship.

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All children of 3 years old and above, at Cheekie Monkeys, are able to get 15 hours of free Early Years Education using the governments Nursery Education Funding.

We only have limited places left so if you want to take advantage of the wonderful facilities and experiences on offer then get in touch!!!

Please contact Lesley or Ali on 01460 52457 for a welcome brochure and to arrange a visit.

www.cheekiemonkeysnursery.co.uk
info@cheekiemonkeysnursery.co.uk

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TOP TEN PHONE APPS FOR MUMS AND MUMS-TO-BE!

MOBILE phone apps can be a godsend for busy mums and mums-to-be: they can keep your kids entertained, help save you time and money, and even keep your hectic life organised! According to Three Mobile, mums could save 135 hours a year if they were more mobile internet savvy. They also found that over half of mums think they would benefit from being able to use internet on the move.

With that in mind, here are our top ten mobile phone apps for mums and mums-to-be, that will make your life easier:

1. Ladybird Baby touch: Peekaboo (£1.79)

Your little one will just love this app! This is a brightly coloured and interactive peekaboo game, based on the Ladybird Peekaboo books.

2. Baby Tracker: Nursing (£2.99)

If you're a nursing new mum, and want to keep track of how often you're feeding your baby, then this is the app for you!

3. Gurgle Stages (Free)

Of course, we love our own gurgle app, which is a guide to your pregnancy stages.

4. Vouchercloud (Free)

This handy app isn't just a godsend for mums: anyone can benefit from having discount vouchers at their fingertips.

5. Annabel's essential guide to feeding your baby and toddler (£3.99)

Annabel Karmel's new app gives you instant access to 100 delicious recipes, tips and advice from each stage of your child's development, and even a meal planner and shopping list tool. Feeding your little one will suddenly get a whole lot easier!

6. Snappy snaps (Free)

If you're anything like us, you're probably always taking photos of your family or little ones using your mobile phone. But those photos would look so much better in frames! Well, thanks to the snappy snaps apps you don't have to take your camera to the store, or waste time downloading them yourself. This easy to use app sends your photos to be developed, straight from your phone!

7. Baby checklist (£2.49)

It's amazing how many things you need to buy when you find out your expecting: although they're only little, babies need a lot of stuff and it can be expensive! This handy app divides everything you need for your baby into categories, and allows you to tick it off when you've bought it: simple, but so handy!

8. Babyphone (£1.79)

With baby phone you can have a baby monitor with you all the time: even when you go away on holiday.

9. Elmo's monster maker (£2.39)

This is such a fun app that mums and dads will love it as much as little ones! Choose a monster body and give it eyes, a nose and a hat. When you're done, Elmo will dance and play with your new pal. It's completely pointless, but will keep little ones entertained for hours!

10. NHS direct (Free)

This app doesn't launch until next month, but will be a parental must as soon as it's live! The NHS direct app will have all 38 of the online symptom checkers, and offer advice on what your next course of action should be: a must have!

FURNHAM INN, CHARD

Family friendly pub in Chard

THE current-day setting of the Furnham Inn with it's car park, beer garden and children's play area gives no hint as to the history of the pub. The old inn sign hanging high on the post beside the street shows a man leading a horse-drawn barge along a canal. This represents the Chard canal whose terminus was only a hundred yards or so from the pub which would have served the users of the canal and those whose businesses were served by it.

Today the family friendly pub serves the local community with darts, pool and skittle teams representing the pub in local leagues.

They have an extensive menu offering fresh home-cooked meals such as steak and kidney pies, chicken leek and mushroom pie, chilli con carne, steaks, lasagne and much more. They also serve a range of bar snacks including steak baguettes, jacket potatoes, toasted sandwiches, chips and burgers.

Fortnightly live entertainment on Friday nights gives customers the opportunity to see some of the best, upcoming local singers and groups. There is also a large screen TV showing live sports action.

FURNHAM INN
Chard

Traditional family friendly public house. Large function room for all parties

- Live sport on large screen
- 2 skittle alleys
- 3 pool tables
- Up to 4 dart boards

01460 62415
Furnham Road, Chard, TA20 1AP

MINIATURES DAY NURSERY

THE nursery is owned and run by Marion Gray, a qualified teacher with many years experience in the early years. Our room supervisors are trained at NVQ level 3 and the rest of the team have relevant child care qualifications.

Miniatures Day Nursery offers 3 bright stimulating rooms and a large secure garden.

- Our Main room caters for 2-5 years olds.
- The Baby room accommodates up to nine 6-month to 2 year olds.
- The Sunshine room is used for a variety of creative activities from painting to clay.
- Our Sensory room opened in May 2011, offering a tranquil space to explore treasure baskets, music and sensory play.

The garden is accessed by all children come rain or shine throughout the year. The children can experience ride on toys, gardening and forest school.

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welcome any visitors by prior arrangement

TM

WeekenderHomes

FREE EVERY WEEK WITH THE WEEKENDER

Issue 63 Friday, February 3 2012

Unique two bedroom Victorian property

THIS unique Victorian property is set in the heart of Axminster's town centre.

Internally, the property benefits from substantial ground floor living accommodation comprising of lounge with open fireplace, fitted kitchen with integral dishwasher and fridge freezer. Electric oven and gas hob. Utility room, WC and dining room. The flag stone stair case rising to the second floor gives way to family bathroom with under floor heating, to large double bedrooms and one large single bedroom. Each room with ornate fireplaces. The property also benefits from loft storage, and basement storage.

To the rear there is an enclosed garden mainly laid to lawn with patio area accessed from double opening doors from the lounge. Access to private driveway with parking for up to 4 vehicles.

Gas central heating and part double glazed. Pets and children considered, regret no DSS. Available 1st April 2012.

This unique property is on the rental market for £995 per calendar month. For more information or to book a viewing please call Symonds and Sampson on 01297 32879.

Properties to let

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CHARD: 3 Bed Bungalow U/F, Garden, Garage & Parking **£700pcm**

...

DONYATT: 3 Bed House U/F, Garden, Garage & Parking **£700pcm**

...

ILMINSTER: 3 Bed House U/F, Garage & Garden **£650pcm**

...

NEW TOWN Nr CHARD: Spacious 4 bed House U/F with Garden & Parking **£750pcm**

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WeekenderHomes is your guide to the local property market

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To place your ad either fill out this coupon and send it to Lyme Media and Events Ltd, Unit 3, St Michaels Business Centre, Church Street, Lyme Regis, Dorset DT7 3DB. Call Marie on 01297 446153 by 12 noon on Wednesday for the Friday's Publication.

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RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS

Membury £725 pcm

A charming three bedroom detached cottage, in a quiet village setting recently refurbished. Garage plus off road parking and garden. Pets and children considered, regret no DSS. Available immediately.

01297 32879

Chard Junction £695 pcm

A character terrace cottage with three double bedrooms. Features to include Aga and Victorian fireplaces. Available immediately.

01297 32879

Axminster £850 pcm

A modern, spacious, detached three bedroom property with enclosed rear garden, ample parking and large garage. Available end of February. Pets and children considered.

01297 32879

Lyme Regis £1100 pcm

Modern detached four bedroom house, located in the desired location of Lyme Regis Benefiting from a fully equipped kitchen, study, double garage and garden with beautiful views across Lyme Bay. Available Mid April.

01297 32879

Uplyme £650 pcm

A detached two bedroom bungalow recently refurbished. Benefiting from off road parking and extensive rear gardens. Available immediately. Pets and children considered.

01297 32879

Axminster £500 pcm

A recently refurbished top floor one bedroom flat, with spacious accommodation. Situated in a convenient town centre location. Available immediately.

01297 32879

Newton Poppleford £925 to include water charges

A four bedroom property set in a quadrant on the outskirts of the village. Separate lounge and dining room, good family accommodation. Garage and off road parking. Private garden. Available mid February

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Whitford £745 pcm

An oak frame barn style house in courtyard setting with two bedrooms on the ground floor and living accommodation on the first floor. Off road parking.

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Axminster £560 pcm

A two bedroom terraced house well maintained set within walking distance of the town centre., with enclosed rear garden and parking space. Pets and children considered. Available March.

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RICS ARLA FindaProperty.com rightmove.co.uk primelocation.com the londonoffice.co.uk

weekender life

arts & entertainment

Highly acclaimed solo performer Pip Utton comes to Somerset before world tour

Pip Utton

OVER the past 12 years Pip Utton has become internationally recognised as one of the leading performers and writers of solo drama. He has performed in over 20 countries receiving rave reviews and winning many awards for both the writing and the performances, recently winning the UNESCO award for Best Solo Performer. Dorset audiences may remember Pip's spellbinding characterisations of Adolf Hitler and Charlie Chaplin a couple of years ago, and following a highly successful run at Edinburgh last summer Pip returns to the Artsreach circuit with another electrifying character makeover, this time as Charles Dickens.

In this timely production, marking the greatest English novelist's bicentenary this February, 'Charles Dickens' walks on to the stage, clutches his chest, staggers, slips from his sister-in-law's arms and falls down dead. Seconds later he leaps up, entertaining the audience by describing his final moments and relating what he believes were the happiest years of his life, the last twelve. Dickens toured the UK and USA publicly performing his famous works and making much money. Separated from his wife he found secret love in the arms of a much younger woman.

Pip is mesmerising as Dickens, unveiling to the audience that the writer wasn't the grave, serious man of myth but a man full of energy, passion and fire, a man who was a catalyst in the social revolution that began during his lifetime...

"A masterful performance. This new play does not need any theatrical devices to highlight its relevance to modern society. The name of the show says it all, Pip Utton IS Charles Dickens" Edinburghguide.com

Don't miss Pip Utton in his gripping portrayal of Charles Dickens before he takes it on tour around the world. He'll be performing at Melbury Osmond Village Hall on Saturday, February 18th at 7.30pm. For more details call 01935 83410.

MEP coming to Ilminster

"BETTER lives with less?" is the title of an important event at the Warehouse Theatre in Ilminster on Friday, February 10th at 7.30pm (Refreshments and exhibitions from 7pm).

Top-level speakers Sir Graham Watson, MEP and Stewart Wallis, Director of NEF, the new economics foundation, will bring new thinking to subjects such as high speed rail, inequality, bees in trouble, electricity prices, fishing quotas and well-being rather than welfare. Questions from the audience will follow their talks.

In Ilminster last May, Sir Graham had everyone riveted by his talk on China. Someone who heard Stewart Wallis speak in Minehead recently, said that he is warm, relaxed and easy to understand.

South Somerset Climate Action has organised this event because it believes there are practical solutions to our problems which are wider than just the climate. It is going to be a stimulating evening.

Sir Graham is leader of the European-wide Liberal Democrat and Reform Party which means he is one of the most senior politicians on the continent. Stewart Wallis has just returned from the World Economic Forum at Davos.

Sir Graham is also: -- chair of the Climate Parliament, -- concerned about the idea of a European energy supergrid, -- enthusiastic about last weeks launch of the South West Marine Energy Park stretching from Bristol to the Isles of Scilly and -- anxious that Europe should get the balance right between conserving fish stocks and allowing continued sustainable fishing.

Here are some clips from the website of the new economics foundation: -- the case for a shorter working week, -- value, not efficiency, is what public services need, -- The Great Transition: tackling climate change and inequality together will help us all, -- new approaches to those things that matter most to people and to achieving a sustainable planet. Do not miss the chance to hear Stewart Wallis speak about some of this.

Tickets cost £5 (Concessions £4) are available from Home Energy Centre, 8 Ditton Street, Ilminster; Lanes Garden Shop, Silver Street, Ilminster; SSCA 27 East Street Ilminster TA19 OAN 01460 55323 or 52347 or order by email from admin@ssca.eclipse.co.uk www.southsomersetclimateaction.org.uk

What's Happening at Ilminster Arts Centre

by Sara Loveridge

OUR newly refurbished Café kitchen is up and running thanks to NatWest CommunityForce, and due to the popularity of our pre-show suppers at jazz concerts we are now able to offer the same for our classical **Concerts in the West** series, starting with **Sarah Power and Nathan Vale** on 3rd. Award-winning soprano Sarah and tenor Nathan will perform a programme of glorious arias and duets from Handel and Schumann to La Traviata and West Side Story.

Climb aboard with **The Riverboat Four** on 10th and join SpeakEasy favourites Steve Graham, Mike Denham, John Wurr and Eddie Edwards for an evening of vintage jazz, ragtime, boogie woogie and popular melodies along with the usual stories and repartee.

Got a story to tell? Come along to **A Way with Words** on 22nd, and share your enthusiasm for words with local poets and short story writers. If you would like to contribute call Helen Walker on: 01460 52675.

Contemporary jazz fans won't want to miss **Darren Altman with Centreline** on 24th. This London quartet, comprising saxophone, guitar bass and drums, are well-known for 'swinging hard and generating a good groove', and have created a strong following nationally.

Bloomers, briefs and bustles feature in **The Knicker Lady** on 25th, when Rosemary Hawthorne brings her hit, one-woman show to Ilminster. Discover the amusing and fascinating story of women's lives through the clothes they wore - on top, but mainly underneath – over centuries past.

Get back to nature with **Landscape Visions**, a new exhibition that opens on 13th and features an evocative array of work by Gwyn Ardyth, with Tiana Marie, Jan Calow, Elizabeth Fortescue, and Karen Young. A one-day painting workshop based on the exhibition takes place on 14th. Entries for our **Annual Open** need to be in by 2nd March so pick up a form on your next visit or see our website for details.

We welcome regular and new stallholders alike for the first **Local Craft and Produce Market** of the year on 4th, followed by an **Antiques and Vintage Collectables Fair** on 18th.

Oil Painting, Rag Rugs, Folk Crafts, Children's Illustration, Felt Making, and **Soft Furnishings** are just some of the many workshops taking place this month at IAC. We always need more volunteers too, so why not come along and get involved!

Ilminster Arts Centre
at The Meeting House,
East Street, Ilminster, TA19 0AN
Box Office: 01460 54973
Information: 01460 55783
www.themeetinghouse.org.uk

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ANTIQUES FOR CONNOISEURS
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Enjoy a winter walk around the Sanctuary (tarmac paths) then warm up with lunch in the restaurant (open 10-4pm) 7 days a week
Ferne Animal Sanctuary, Chard, TA20 3DH Tel: 01460 65214
www.fernemanimalsanctuary.org

weekenderlife DIRECTORY

Call 01297 446153 for advertising

Sunset Café Stompers return for Martock concert

THE Sunset Café Stompers return to Martock this February for a concert at the Parish Church. The concert will mark the third visit of the band to the Church, and pianist Mike Denham's eighth, and the seven piece will play toe-tapping band numbers, ragtime and boogie.

The concert will take place on Friday, February 17th at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £8 on the door, or £7 in advance from 01935 822706. For more details you can visit www.martockonline.co.uk/events

The Sunset Café Stompers

Events

We are busy bees at
The Henhayes Centre in Crewkerne
LOOK WHAT'S ON

Every Tuesday from 10am until 2.30pm
The Tuesday Welcome Group
Entertainment and lunch
for the over 70s

Every Wednesday afternoon
2.30pm - 4pm
BINGO
Cash Prizes

Every Thursday, 10am - 11am
Over 50s Keep Fit
A class which proves exercising can be fun
Also fortnightly on a Thursday
BINGO
Beginning 23rd February at 7.30pm

Fridays 9am - 11am
Country Market
Fresh local produce

Every Saturday 10am - 12noon
Tea, coffee, homemade cakes and biscuits
From only 60p

Friday 2nd March
REG MEUROSS IN CONCERT
Tickets (inc. supper) £11 from
The Henhayes Centre

There are many other events that take place and the Centre can also be hired for dinners and parties
For further details please contact
The Henhayes Centre, South Street Car Park, Crewkerne
Tel: 01460 74340 www.henhayes.co.uk

You can read *The* **WEEKENDER** online every week at www.the-weekender.co.uk

Dance classes

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Pre School Ballet,
Hip Hop & Disco Divas
for boys and girls from 2.5 years
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Classes available in Crewkerne, Chard, Ilminster, Beaminster, Norton Sub Hamdon, Yeovil
Fantastic Opportunities for all ages
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Arts centre

ILMINSTER
arts centre
AT THE MEETING HOUSE

LOCAL CRAFT AND PRODUCE MARKET
Saturday 4th February
9.30am-2.00pm. Admission free
Our regular market takes place on the first Saturday of every month and features a wide range of quality foods and crafts including meat, handmade cards, wood craft, pottery, and textiles. A great place to browse an eclectic mix of stalls while supporting local makers and producers.

THE RIVERBOAT FOUR
Friday 10th February at 8pm
Tickets: £12. Pre-Show Supper £9.50 at 7pm
SpeakEasy favourites Mike Denham, Steve Graham, John Wurr and Eddie Edwards together make up The Riverboat Four. Expect a lively evening of vintage jazz, ragtime, boogie woogie and popular melodies along with the usual stories and repartee. Tickets are selling fast!

Booking details: 01460 54973
www.themeetinghouse.org.uk
info@themeetinghouse.org.uk
East Street, Ilminster, Somerset. TA19 0AN.
Open Mon-Fri 9.30-4.30, Sat 10.00-2.30.

Fitness and wellbeing

ZUMBA® FITNESS

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Community Hall Crewkerne – Mon 7.15pm
Cresta Leisure Centre, Chard – Tues 9.30am
Meeting House Ilminster – Tue 5pm
West 1 Youth Club (Tone) – Tue 7.30pm
East Chinnock Village Hall (Tone) – Wed 9.30am
Beaminster Town Hall – Wed 1.30pm
Misterton Village Hall – Thur 6.00pm

(1lb Hand Weights or Zumba Sticks required for Zumba Tone Class – Pre-Order Sticks now £15)

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Hotel and Restaurant

The Mariners
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The Mariners is bursting with character, charm and friendly atmosphere and is the perfect setting
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e: enquiries@hotellymeregis.co.uk w: www.hotellymeregis.co.uk

weekenderlife

weekenderlife DIARY DATES

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3RD - SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4TH
CHARD: Chard Amateur Theatre Society (CATS) present 'Beauty & the Beast'. Evening performances are at 7.30pm with a matinee performance on the Saturday at 3pm. Tickets will go on sale at Barrons, Holyrood Street priced: Concessions (under 14 years & over 60 senior) £5; Adult £7 (stalls) £7.50 (balcony) and £8 (tier). For more information please phone 01460 65062.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4TH
MISTERTON: Table Top Sale at Misterton WI Hall, Middle Street, from 10am-1:30pm. Variety of stalls including bric-a-brac, home bake, clothing, household items, make up, etc. Tables £6. Soup, sandwiches/light refreshments available. Free entry and on road parking. Proceeds to Multiple Sclerosis Society. Call 01460 271393 for more information.
CLAPTON: Quiz and Supper evening at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall from 7pm. All welcome, prize for winning team. Bar, raffle, entrance £7 including hot supper. Always popular, so please book in advance on 01460 75380

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5TH
CREWKERNE: Dodgeball at the old sports hall, Wadham School, from 2:30pm. £20 per team of five. Call 07922 181054 to register by January 22nd. New team very welcome. In aid of the British Heart Foundation.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7TH
CREWKERNE: Are you over 70? Would you like a laugh, a lunch and generally enjoy yourself? If so, come to The Henhayes Centre from 10am until 2.30pm. Lunch £5.50 with a cup of tea/coffee. Transport can be arranged. Please ring 01460 74340 for more information.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8TH
CREWKERNE: Join us at The Henhayes Community Centre, Crewkerne for a fun afternoon of Bingo. 2.30pm to 4pm. £4.20 for 6 books of 12 games. CASH PRIZES

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7TH - SATURDAY 11TH
COMBE ST NICHOLAS: Cloverleaf Productions annual pantomime - 'Sinbad... his 8th voyage' in the village hall. 7.30pm Tuesday - Friday, 2.30pm & 6.30pm Saturday.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 9TH
CREWKERNE: Over 50 and want to enjoy keeping fit? Come to The Henhayes Community Centre, Crewkerne for Over 50's Keep Fit from 10am to 11am. £3 session (members £2).

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10TH
DONYATT: Heritage Theatre presents 'Anything Goes at the Village Hall, from 7pm for 7:30pm. Price £9 - includes two course supper during interval. Bar. Join us for an evening of fun with songs, words and music. Organised by Hall Committee for Hall Improvement Fund. Telephone 01460 53879 for tickets / information.
CLAPTON: Luncheon Club at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall. Midday for 12.30pm start. All welcome, but please book your place by phoning 01460 77057.
ILMINSTER: Better Lives with Less? Two stimulating speakers Sir Graham Watson MEP and Stewart Wallis, Director of nef "economics as if people and the planet mattered". Refreshments & Discussion at the Warehouse Theatre. 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets £5/concessions £4 from Home Energy Centre, 8 Ditton Street, Ilminster. Organised by SSCA www.southsomersetclimateaction.org.uk 01460 55323
CREWKERNE: Country Market at the Henhayes Community Centre, Crewkerne... 9am –11.30am. All fresh local produce. Vegetables, cakes, bread, flowers and much more.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11TH
HINTON ST GEORGE: Flix in the Stix presents 'Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (cert 15) at the Village Hall from 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 in advance from the Village Shop and Dorothy's Tea Room, or £5.50 on the door. For more details call 01460 72906.
CREWKERNE: 10am – 12pm. Tea/coffee from 60p, cake and biscuits available. Open to all.
NORTH PERROTT: Jumble Sale at North Perrott Village Hall from 2pm. Telephone 01460 74296 for more details.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12TH
CHARD: Concert at Chard Museum, High Street, by the Icknield String Quintet "Music for a Sunday Afternoon". 2.30 pm. Tickets £7.50 (includes tea and cake!) from Barrons, 2 Holyrood St Chard.
DONYATT: Produce/Craft Market and Big Breakfast at Donyatt Village Hall from 9am - 12noon. For more details call 01460 57673.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 13TH
MISTERTON: Fundraiser for student Meryl Toogood's expedition to Africa in 2013 - Valentine's Bingo at Misterton Village Hall. Doors open 6.30pm eyes down 7.30pm. Fabulous prize hampers to be won, tombola and draw.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16TH
YEOVIL: A YCAA Café with popular radio 4 producer Cherry Cookson. In the Johnson Studio at the Octagon Theatre 7.30-9.30pm. Reserve your tickets (Full price £7) at the Box Office, 01935 422884 or pay at the door on the night. Bar available - nibbles provided.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 17TH
TATWORTH: Film 'The Debt' at the Memorial Hall, from 8pm (doors open 7:15pm). Organised by T&F Movies. Telephone 01460 220198 for more info.
ILMINSTER: A History of the Quakers in Industry - This course, tutored by Dr Michael Atkinson, examines the role of the Quakers in the commercial and social history of Britain. There are six meetings on Fridays 2:30pm until 4pm, from Feb 17th - Mar 30th (there is no session on March 2nd). The venue is The Minster Rooms, Court Barton, Ilminster, TA19 0DH. Course fee: £37. Please call on Hilary Bolitho on 01460 53247 for enrolment and further details.
SEATON: Seaton Carnival Committee presents Valentines Barn Dance with the famous Dartmoor Pixie Band on Friday 17th February at Seaton Town Hall. Licensed Bar - Hot Food Available - Raffle. Doors open 7pm. Tickets in advance £6.50, Tickets on Door £7.50. Tickets are available from Seaton Town Hall Box Office 01297 625699 or 01297 23491.

You can email your Diary Dates to rob@pemedia.co.uk
Deadline 12noon Wednesday. Unfortunately we cannot accept ongoing entries without a list of dates

LYME MEDIA AND EVENTS - DIARY DATES TERMS AND CONDITIONS
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How it works: Send us your diary date by texting **LME *(space)* DIARY2 *(space)* followed by details of your event** to 63333. By doing so you will have submitted your event to be published in the next available issue. Please note, you only need submit your diary date once; it will be published as many times as possible during the period leading up to your event.
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Going Out Film

This week's new releases

CHRONICLE 12A
THREE high school friends gain superpowers after making an incredible discovery. Soon, though, they find their lives spinning out of control and their bond tested as they embrace their darker sides.
Stars Dane DeHaan, Alex Russell and Michael B. Jordan.

JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND PG
SEAN Anderson (Josh Hutcherson) partners with his mom's boyfriend Hank (Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson) on a mission to find his grandfather, who is thought to be missing on a mythical island.
Also stars Vanessa Hudgens, Michael Caine and Kristin Davis.

CARNAGE 12A
TWO pairs of parents hold a cordial meeting after their sons are involved in a fight, though as their time together progresses, increasingly childish behaviour throws the evening into chaos.
Comedy drama starring Jodie Foster, Kate Winslet, Christoph Waltz and John C Reilly.

MAN ON A LEDGE 12A
AS A police psychologist works to talk down an ex-con who is threatening to jump from a Manhattan hotel rooftop, the biggest diamond heist ever committed is in motion...
Crime thriller starring Sam Worthington, Elizabeth Banks and Jamie Bell.

YOUNG ADULT 15
Soon after her divorce, fiction writer Mavis Gary (Charlize Theron) returns to her home in small-town Minnesota, looking to rekindle a romance with her ex-boyfriend, who is now happily married and has a newborn daughter. Also stars Patrick Wilson and Patton Oswalt.

MARTHA MARCY MAY MARLENE 15
HAUNTED by painful memories and increasing paranoia, a damaged Martha (Elizabeth Olsen) struggles to re-assimilate with her family after fleeing an abusive cult. Dramatic thriller also starring Christopher Abbott, Sarah Paulson and John Hawkes.

JACK AND JILL PG
FAMILY guy Jack Sadelstein (Adam Sandler) prepares for the annual event he dreads: the Thanksgiving visit of his twin sister, the needy and passive-aggressive Jill (also played by Sandler), who then refuses to leave.
Also stars Al Pacino, Katie Holmes, and David Spade.

BEST LAID PLANS 15
DAVID Blair directs this powerful British Drama, loosely inspired by John Steinbeck's novel 'Of Mice and Men'. Set in Nottingham, the film revolves around the relationship between the thuggish Danny (Stephen Graham) and Joseph (Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje), a giant of a man with a mental age of seven. When Danny finds himself in debt to a local crime boss, he feels he is left with no choice but to manipulate Joseph into participating in a series of underground cage fights from which Danny can pay his debts.

Forthcoming Events in Chard Guildhall

Every Sunday 10:30 am
FOREFRONT COMMUNITY CHURCH
Church Service - All welcome

Every Tuesday 9:30am, 11:30am, 5:30pm and 7:30pm
SLIMMING WORLD
Lose weight the extra easy way.
Come along and find out how

Every other Wednesday, next meeting 15th February
10:30am - 12:30pm
MEMORY CAFE
Friendly and informal gathering for information, support and social contact for people affected by dementia

Every Wednesday 7:30pm - 9:15pm
MEETING VOICES in the Town Hall
Song workshops for all "if you can speak you can sing"
Come and join us

Every Thursday, 9am - 2pm
ANTIQUES FAIR
Books, china, jewellery & much more
Now also available for Food and Craft stallholders
Customer admission free, refreshments and lunches available
For further information contact 01460 239 567

Every Thursday, 7:45 pm - 8:30 pm
ZUMBA FITNESS
Exciting latin moves
A fun based fitness party workout
For information call 07738 014409 or email zumbasom@hotmail.com

THURSDAYS 8am - 2pm
CAFÉ OPEN

Chard Amateur Theatre Society "**CATS**" present
"BEAUTY & THE BEAST"
Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th February
Evening performances at 7.30pm
plus a Matinee performance also on the Saturday at 3.00pm
Tickets on sale Barrons

Saturday 11th February
10am - 11am
COUNCILLOR'S SURGERY

Saturday 11th February 2012 9am - 12:30pm
POPULAR FAYRE
Admission free, refreshments available

Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm
CHARD TOWN COUNCIL RECEPTION

We have many other events taking place.
For further details please contact
Chard Town Council, The Guildhall, Chard
Tel: 01460 239 567
WWW.CHARD.GOV.UK

CINEMA LISTINGS

Friday, February 3rd - Thursday, February 9th
ALL LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

YEOVIL CINEWORLD
Yeo Leisure Park, Old Station Rd
Tel: 0871 200 2000
www.cineworld.co.uk

The Descendants 15
Daily: 13.00, 15.40, 18.30, 21.15
Chronicle 12A
Daily: 12.50, 15.00, 17.10, 19.20, 21.30
The Grey 15
Fri, Mon-Wed: 12.30, 15.10, 17.50, 20.50
Sat & Sun: 15.10, 17.50, 20.50
Thu: 12.30, 15.10
War Horse 12A
Daily: 13.10, 16.40, 19.50
The Artist PG
Fri, Mon-Wed: 13.20, 18.10, 20.30
Sat & Sun: 18.10, 20.30
Thu: 18.10
A Monster In Paris *in 2D* U
Fri, Mon-Wed: 16.10
Sat & Sun: 11.30, 13.50, 16.10
Star Wars: Episode I: The Phantom Menace *in 3D* U
Thu: 12.00, 14.50, 18.00, 20.50
Jack and Jill PG
Daily: 14.00, 16.30, 18.50, 21.20
Plus Sat & Sun: 11.40am
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island *in 3D* PG
Daily: 13.40, 18.20, 20.40
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island *in 2D* PG
Fri, Mon-Thue: 16.00, Sat: 11.20, 16.00
Man On A Ledge 12A
Daily: 13.30, 15.50, 18.40, 21.00
Plus Sat & Sun: 11.00am
Young Adult 15
Daily: 13.20, 15.40, 18.00, 20.20
Plus Sun: 11.00am
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked U
Daily: 14.10, 16.20
Plus Sat & Sun: 11.50am
Sherlock Holmes: A Game Of Shadows 12A
Fri-Wed: 18.15, 21.10
Thu: 21.10
Puss In Boots *in 2D* U
Sat: 10.00am
Diary Of A Wimpy Kid U
Sat: 10.10am
A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventure *in 2D* U
Sat: 10.20am

TAUNTON ODEON
Heron Gate, Riverside
Tel: 0871 22 44 007
www.odeon.co.uk

A Monster In Paris *in 2D* U
Sat & Sun: 11.00am
A Monster In Paris *in 3D* U
Daily: 15.30, plus Sat & Sun: 13.15
Chronicle 12A
Daily: 15.00, 17.10, 19.20, 21.30
Plus Sat & Sun: 10.45, 12.45
Diary Of A Wimpy Kid 2: Rodrick Rules U
Sat & Sun: 10.10am
Hugo *in 3D* U
Sat & Sun: 10.35am
Jack and Jill PG
Fri, Mon, Wed: 14.40, 16.45, 19.00, 21.30
Sat & Sun: 12.30, 14.40, 16.45, 19.00, 21.30
Tue: 16.45, 19.00, 21.30
Thu: 14.40, 16.45, 21.30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island *in 2D* PG
Daily: 13.20, 18.15
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island *in 3D* PG
Daily: 15.45, 20.40
Plus Sat & Sun: 11.00am
Man On A Ledge 12A
Daily: 13.30, 16.00, 18.30, 21.00
Puss In Boots *in 2D* U
Sun: 10.30am
Puss In Boots *in 3D* U
Sat & Sun: 11.15am
Sherlock Holmes: A Game Of Shadows 12A
Fri-Sun, Tue, Wed: 21.15, Mon: 15.30
Star Wars: Episode I: The Phantom Menace *in 3D* U
Thu: 12.15, 15.10, 18.15, 21.15
The Descendants 15
Fri, Wed: 12.45, 15.30, 18.15, 21.00
Sat, Sun, Mon: 12.45, 15.30, 18.15, 21.00, Mon: 18.15, 21.00, Thu: 18.45
The Grey 15
Fri-Wed: 13.10, 15.40, 18.15, 20.50
Thu: 13.10, 15.40, 21.15
The Ides Of March 15
Tue: 11.00am
The Iron Lady 12A
Fri-Sun, Tue, Wed: 18.45
War Horse 12A
Daily: 13.00, 16.15, 19.30

LYME REGIS REGENT
Broad Street, Lyme Regis
Tel: 0871 230 3200
www.scottcinemas.co.uk

War Horse 12A
Daily: 19.20, plus Sat: 15.55, Plus Sun: 14.00, Plus Wed: 14.30
Hugo *in 3D* U Sat: 13.05
Midnight In Paris 12A Thu: 10.30am

Wizards of Soul

THERE is less than a week left before the curtain goes up on Yeovil College's much anticipated production of 'The Wiz: The Super Soul Musical'.

There were rave reviews following last year's highly praised production of 'Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street', so expectations are already high.

Inspired by 'The Wizard of Oz', 'The Wiz' brings L. Frank Baum's fantastical story into the 21st century with a lively score of Motown, gospel and soul music and a modern, urban setting.

It tells the story of Dorothy (Melissa Wroe), who feels trapped by life in rural Kansas and dreams of places beyond the horizon. Swept away during a tornado, she finds herself in the weird and wonderful land of Oz. On the advice of the Addaperle, the Good Witch of the North (Amy Batty), she puts on the Wicked Witch of the East's magical silver shoes and takes to the Road of Yellow Brick. With the Scarecrow (Lucy Warr), Tin Man (Zade Milnes), Lion (Andy Cannon) and her faithful dog Toto (Stefen Mounter), she finds dazzles and danger in the fantastical land. But will she learn to believe and find her way home?

Former Gryphon School pupil Melissa Wroe (19) of Yeovil won the part of Dorothy last year despite being on crutches at the time. She said "I'd broken my ankle before the auditions, so originally I wasn't even going to try out for the show. My best friend Lucy [the Scarecrow] really wanted to audition, though, and she was really nervous, so I ended up going along to boost her confidence. I did my best but didn't think I was in with a chance, so I was delighted when I got the part, especially because I'd be performing alongside Lucy! Singing soul music has been challenging, but the songs sound absolutely amazing. We performed at the Further Education awards at the start of January and got a fantastic reaction from the audience. I'm really excited about going on stage next week, but also nervous and kind of sad that it's all coming to an end. I was lucky enough to be part of last year's production, playing Johanna in Sweeney Todd, so I feel privileged to be back at the Octagon."

Director and Performing Arts lecturer Ben Woof said "After four months of very hard work, the cast and crew have reached a peak in their performance and are more than ready to take to the stage with this fantastic show. Despite a tiring schedule, the students have put a phenomenal amount of effort into the rehearsals and it shows in their performances. Their energy levels seem boundless and we're sure that the audiences will be thrilled by what they see at the Octagon next week."

'The Wiz: The Super Soul Musical' is on at the Octagon Theatre, Yeovil, from Wednesday, February 8th to Friday, February 10th, starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets cost £12 (£10 concessions). Call 01935 422884 or visit www.octagon-theatre.co.uk to book your tickets now!

The cast of The Wiz

The Howley Tavern

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Plaice Fillet
Oven Cooked & topped with a Mango & Drambuie sauce
Served with new potatoes & fresh seasonal vegetables

Steak & Ale Pie or Pork, Apple & Cider Pie
Served with new potatoes & selection of fresh seasonal vegetable

Chicken Breast Wrapped In Parma Ham
Stuffed with Mozzarella, Cherry Tomatoes & Basil
& served with new potatoes & fresh seasonal vegetables

SWEETS

Select from our sweets, ice creams, sorbets or cheese board

Followed by Coffee & Mint

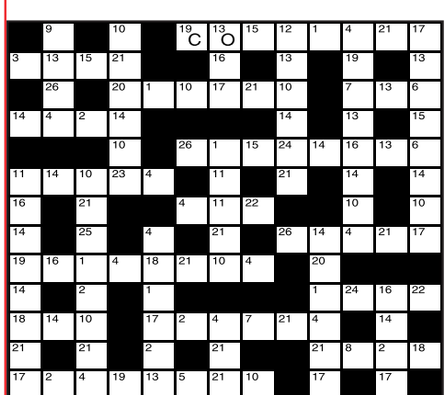
£18.95 per person

Brain Gym

No.154

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19 C
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13 O	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Z	P	J	B	Q	S	Y	E	V	O	X	K	G
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
C	I	R	U	N	H	F	M	T	A	L	W	D

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Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

3. Almost begin to embark - that's right (9)
8. Give a hand signal when this approaches the shore (4)
9. Learning to recognise a foothold on the mountain (9)
10. A kind that is made to sally (6)
11. One who sums up the scaly creature (5)
14. Change the level of the shafts, we hear (5)
15. Depression for the theologian, by the sound of it (4)
16. Just the thing for the high-stepper (5)
18. Cramped accommodation may well be barred (4)
20. Too early for the Mayflower? (5)
21. It would be carried by the chairmen (5)
24. Show off the United Nations in uninteresting surroundings (6)
25. Split completely in a sorrowful way (9)
26. Small piece of land mentioned in Marconi's letters (4)
27. One who faces the wall (9)

Down

1. Frightened by an undefined article, we refused to work (3-6)
2. Charges too much? (9)
4. Subtle blending provides quality of sound (4)
5. Went boating and fell out! (5)
6. What the abbot expects to be, as far as holy orders are concerned! (6)
7. Right time of life for passion (4)
9. Birds whose flight is ground-controlled? (5)
11. Though born elsewhere, he produces a legal right to retention of property (5)
12. Turned up in a nosy way (9)
13. Facts that place genuine restrictions about one (9)
17. Agree with the amount scored (5)
19. Acquires 9 Across (6)
22. Ill-treatment for Lincoln around America (5)
23. Timber transaction (4)
24. Escape from most of the Navy (4)

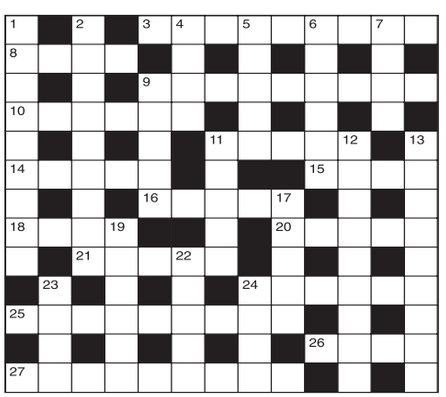
Quick Clues:

Across

3. Escort (9)
8. Merit (4)
9. Monarch (9)
10. Stress (6)
11. Lift (5)
14. Bisect (5)
15. Level (4)
16. Harvests (5)
18. Not any (4)
20. Trunk (5)
21. Late (5)
24. Charcoal (6)
25. Incessant (9)
26. Brink (4)
27. Recovers (9)

Down

1. Loud hailer (9)
2. Ferocious (9)
4. Diving bird (4)
5. Musical drama (5)
6. Delight (6)
7. Near (4)
9. Derisive smile (5)
11. Willing (5)
12. All (9)
13. Meet (9)
17. Purloin (5)
19. Christian festival (6)
22. Thick (5)
23. Belt (4)
24. Tend (4)



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Sock; 3 Herdsman; 8 Rank; 9 Hostages; 11 Keeping watch; 13 Notice; 14 Stupor; 17 Strawberries; 20 Headgear; 21 Tale; 22 Paladins; 23 Lent. Down: 1 Striking; 2 Contest; 4 Enough; 5 Detractors; 6 Magic; 7 Nose; 10 Discharged; 12 Crescent; 15 Private; 16 Obtain; 18 Trail; 19 Whip. QUICK - Across: 1 Pick; 3 Advocate; 8 Same; 9 Flatness; 11 Illegitimate; 13 Luxury; 14 Escape; 17 Presentiment; 20 Original; 21 Fame; 22 Preceded; 23 News. Down: 1 Possibly; 2 Complex; 4 Delete; 5 Optimistic; 6 Alert; 7 Easy; 10 Aggressive; 12 Restless; 15 Average; 16 Insane; 18 Raise; 19 Pomp.

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

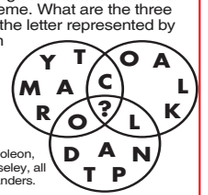
6	9			2	8			
2		7			4	8		6
		5					1	9
9		2		1				
	4						3	
				6		9		
7					9	5		
	5	4	6			7		8
8			7	5			2	4

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

9	2	6	8	1	7	3	4	5
8	5	4	6	2	3	7	1	9
1	7	3	9	4	5	8	6	2
2	9	7	5	3	1	4	8	6
3	6	1	4	8	9	2	5	7
4	8	5	7	6	2	9	3	1
6	1	8	2	7	4	5	9	3
5	4	2	3	9	6	1	7	8
7	3	9	1	5	8	6	2	4

Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION: The letter represented by the question mark is L. Napoleon, Cromwell, Wolseley, all military commanders.

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2 NIGHTS COVERING 20HRS
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Smart Fortwo 2012: The new look

THE SPRING of 2012 will see the smart fortwo making its mark in a striking new look, featuring an upgraded exterior and a fresh leather/fabric mix in the interior.

The substantially revamped smart fortwo sports a markedly more dynamic appearance, featuring a larger radiator grille with integrated logo, striking front aprons in a new design, horizontally arranged LED daytime driving lights, muscular side skirts and modified rear aprons. "The way in which the fortwo now displays the smart logo more prominently stands for the brand's new self-confidence," notes smart boss Dr Annette Winkler." The smart fortwo has long become an icon that is a defining feature of urban traffic throughout the world."

The chrome-coloured logo is now positioned directly in the black radiator grille. The air inlets under the number plate have been combined into a single unit, lending the smart fortwo a bolder appearance. The new, optionally available LED daytime driving lights are now arranged horizontally. There is also a choice of three new alloy wheels: the smart fortwo passion comes with a new 9-spoke alloy wheel; two additional alloy wheels fitted with wide tyres and featuring a 3-spoke and 3-twin-spoke design respectively round off the range. The choice of colours comprises seven options, including matt anthracite for the first time. The smart fortwo BRABUS Xclusive is now also optionally available in white. In addition to the three soft top colours for the smart cabrio which were previously available from the smart programme (black, red, blue), the smart BRABUS tailor made programme offers six other soft top colours.

While the main focus of this facelift is on the exterior, there are changes inside the car, too. These include a new, high-quality interior package in crystal grey, comprising a fresh leather/fabric combination for the seats, an imitation leather/fabric mix for the door trims and black imitation leather for the instrument panel in combination with a grey knee pad.

The pulse and passion equipment lines are generally more colourful options than the basic pure model. pulse and passion highlight the frame of the front grille and the rear trim strip in silver, for example, while the front spoiler, side skirts and rear apron are painted in the car's exterior colour. The door mirror caps are finished in the tridion colour. On the smart pure, these components are black.

The five lines – pure, pulse, passion, BRABUS and BRABUS Xclusive – are to be retained. Similarly, the smart fortwo will continue to be available as a coupé and cabrio version and with six engine and motor variants. The spectrum ranges from the particularly environment-friendly electric power train in the fortwo electric drive and the efficient micro hybrid petrol engine through the powerful turbo petrol engine to the fuel-efficient cdi turbodiesel. Prices begin at € 10,275 for the smart fortwo 45 kW mhd pure.The new model generation for 2012 represents the continuation of a unique success story for smart: as a trendsetter the smart fortwo has been redefining individual urban mobility for more than ten years now. It combines responsibility to the environment and high ecological standards with joie de vivre and a high fun factor. With its compact dimensions the two-seater takes up less road and parking space than any other car around.

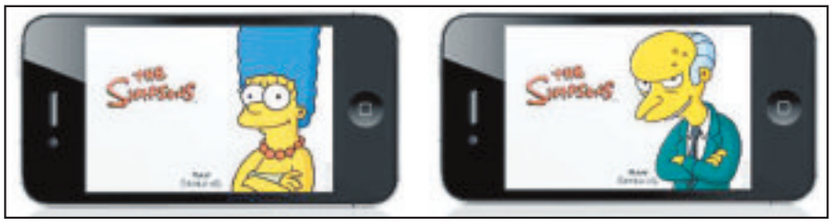
More than 1.3 million smart fortwos have been delivered to customers since the first model was launched in 1998. 101,996 smart fortwos were handed over to customers worldwide in 2011 – 4.6 percent more than in the previous year.

The car2go mobility service is also attracting growing numbers of fans. Over 2000 smart fortwos are currently in operation for 60,000 customers in seven cities around the globe. car2go is already successfully up and running in Ulm and Hamburg (Germany), Austin and San Diego (USA), Vancouver (Canada), Vienna (Austria) and Amsterdam (Netherlands). car2go will be launching in Lyon (France), Düsseldorf, Stuttgart, Washington D.C. and other cities in 2012.

The facelifted smart fortwo will be available in the UK in April 2012

Further information from smart is available on the internet: www.media.daimler.com and www.smart.com

Mr Burns gives you orders, Marge Simpson is your humble guide



SPRINGFIELD'S Mr Burns and Marge Simpson are the next to tell you where to go as TomTom releases these all-new character voices for their range of GPS navigation systems. Each of the character voices have been developed in partnership with Twentieth Century Fox Consumer Products, The Gracie Films Worldwide Brand Division and Locutio Voice Technologies. Mr Burns and Marge Simpson join the voice of Homer Simpson, which has become the most downloaded character voice of all time, for TomTom GPS apps and personal navigation devices.

Springfield Nuclear Power Plant owner Mr Burns is as bold and direct as one would expect: "Take the third right. Do it, driving monkey!" and "Take the exit on the right. Trust me - I'm an evil billionaire." While Marge instructs drivers, "Exit right ahead. Hmm, it smells a little funky in here Šwas Homer in this car?"

Marge Simpson, Mr Burns and Homer Simpson are exclusively available for the TomTom App for iPhone, iPad and personal navigation devices. The voices can be downloaded onto a TomTom personal navigation device from mytomtom.com or from TomTom HOME. Users of the TomTom iPhone and iPad apps can obtain the voices via in-app purchase.

"We want to keep the offerings on the TomTom app fresh and exciting by introducing new voices at different times," said Jeffrey Godsick, President of Fox Consumer Products. "We know that fans of the show are going to appreciate these new additions as it gives them yet another platform to enjoy one of the greatest shows of all time."

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Clarkson voted worst partner for driving advernture

JEREMY CLARKSON has topped a poll of the celebrities Brits would least like to share a driving adventure with, according to new research by Continental Tyres.

The controversial TV presenter and columnist was rated as the worst person to share a 4x4 drive across the Sahara Desert. Hot on Clarkson's heels was Katie Price and Prime Minister David Cameron a close third.

Three quarters of drivers would rather ditch a celebrity, with nearly half opting for a family member to join them, whilst the rest put friends in front of the famous.

The poll of 2,000 motorists by Continental Tyres identified a good sense of humour as the top trait for a co-driver, ahead of good motoring knowledge and survival skills.

The research was conducted as part of the launch of this year's Conti 4x4 Trophy, where people compete for a place on an epic off road challenge, driving a Hummer across the Sahara Desert.

Tim Bailey, spokesperson for Continental Tyres, said: "Driving thousands of miles through the Atlas Mountains and the fiery sands of the Sahara Desert makes your choice of co-driver incredibly important. It's a long, tough and often dangerous journey.

"Jeremy Clarkson might have motoring credentials but either his calamitous road trips on Top Gear his lack of practical skills or his outspoken views mean most people would leave him behind."

When men were asked which female celebrity they would choose to do the journey with, Kelly Brook was number one. And women chose Robert Pattinson to rev their engine.

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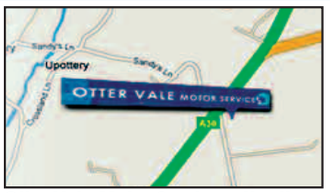

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JACK HIGH NEWS FROM AROUND THE BOWLS CLUBS

Ridout in World Champs squad

ILMINSTER *with Des Maull*
CONGRATULATIONS go to Ilminster and Somerset's Louis Ridout who has been selected as reserve for the England Men's team for the World Championships in Australia in November and December.

Congratulations also to Angie Watkins and Steve Turner for reaching the National Mixed Pairs Finals at Northants in February after beating Barry Force From Weston St Andrews in the area Final.

A mens four of Bill Anderson, Matt Hamilton, Steve Turner and Mark Denslow are through to the area final after beating Weston St Andrews by 30 shots to 11.

Ilminster Ladies Played in the Optika Trophy this week. Team 1 of Betty Marner and Jean Jones (Pairs), Monica Childs, Margaret Evans and June Checketts (Triples) and Amy Garland, Norma Pugh, Penny Stow and Dot Whelan lost at Taunton Deane.

Team 2 of Heather Grinter and Angie Watkins (Pairs) Gillian Leighton, Sylvia Read and Maureen Mitchel (Triples) and Marina Gardiner, Hilary Leamon, Alison Atyeo and Sue Spurway (4s) lost to Minehead,

On Sunday Ilminster played in a mixed Friendly against Crewkerne Bowls Club. After an enjoyable game the scores were;

Ilminster Rinks; Hilary Miller, Gary Riste, Des Maull and June Checketts 35 M Partridge 7.

Lyn Williams, John Pemberton, Andy Williams and Mike King 41 D Smith 12. Hilary Leamon, Dave Wallis, Ken Leamon and Penny 33 D Partridge 11.

Norma Pugh, David Pugh, Heather Sims and Barry Sims 26 S Le feure 11. Val Dargue, Brian Welch, Cliff Whelan and Dot Whelan 30 P Stringer 15.

Hazel Huish, Malcolm Norton Roy Orme and Roger Brown 21 P Laubars10.

CHARDSTOCK
LAST Sunday a team of 15 travelled to Donyatt BC to play a five-rink mixed triples friendly.

Rink scores; Jeffery, A Callagan and P Compton lost 14-15. J Tucker, V Cole and N Denslow won 20-11. B Howard, S Dando and M Rogers lost 6-27. T Bird, B Sluman and D Eldridge lost 13-19 P Baldwin, G Bodily and M Toms drew 14-14. Final score 86-67 to Donyatt.

CHARD *with Penny Herrick*
Lawn Green Bowls
A HOST friendly matches, tournaments and league games have now been arranged for the coming season.

Anyone interested in joining Chard Bowling Club should contact the Club Secretary, Rosie Barnard, on Chard 01460 65763 or Penny Herrick, Match Secretary, on 01460 929794.

New members can join for free (for one year only) from 1st April.

Short Mat Bowls
THIS week six teams took to the mats in the Milford & Dormor Afternoon Triples League.

East Coker played Westway in an extremely tightly fought game which was all decided on the final end when East Coker won14-13.

Meanwhile the Magpies met the Greyhounds. The Magpies flew into a 9-2 lead but the Greyhounds gradually pegged them back and, with two ends to go, took the lead 10 -9. The Magpies drew level at the penultimate end but the Greyhounds galloped home on the last end to win 12-10.

This means that the Greyhounds now lead the league by three points but the Magpies still have two games in hand.

The Merriott Canaries could do no wrong in the first-half of their game against the Chard Hurricanes and took the lead, but fortunes changed and the Hurricanes gained five shots at one end.

This seemed to sap the fight from the Canaries and they went down 15-11.

All in a Day's work for Jonathon as Chard hit six

CHARD 2ND XI 6 BRIDGWATER C 0
AN emphatic win but one Chard had to work hard for until the closing stages of the game.

The result was influenced to a significant extent by the presence of Jonathan Day who was making his first appearance for the team this season.

Day's work rate was impressive and his runs from an attacking midfield position caused Bridgwater problems all afternoon. One such burst set up the opening goal for Harvey Dening, a sweet reverse stick strike.

Alex Gurd could have doubled the lead soon after but somehow managed to volley a shot over the bar from just inches out. He made amends before half-time taking up the same far post position to latch onto a cross from Ed Ireland-Jones to score from close range.

Chard's forward momentum was almost irresistible at this stage, Day linking well with all the forwards to create numerous chances.

One of many on-target shots was blocked on the line by a defender's foot, but Chard missed the chance to go in three up at the interval when the 'keeper saved Justin Green's penalty flick.

A two-goal lead never feels entirely comfortable and Bridgwater started the second-half as if they knew the next goal would be crucial to the outcome of the match.

Fortunately for Chard, a simple three pass move along the left wing between Gurd and Max Beale set up a cross to Dening who swept in his second goal.

On the opposite side of the pitch, Day, continued to link well with Simon and Justin Green, the latter finding plenty of space for raids into the D, setting up several close range chances.

From one of these, Gurd tapped home his second and Chard's fourth before Green went route-one and scored himself from the tightest of angles rather than crossing. Gurd went on to complete his hat-trick with another close-range finish.

In between Chard adding to their tally, Bridgwater continued to press for a consolation goal.

They had two efforts blocked but their best chance came in a close range melee with 'keeper Richard Green smuggling the ball round the post to ensure he and the team kept a clean sheet.

Umpires: Jim Sainsbury & Trevor Goss.
Match sponsor: Synergy Farm Health.

Yeovil & District mixed Tennis

Division 1	Pld	Pts
Sherborne A	8	56
Yeovil A	9	53
ILMINSTER	9	46
Melcombe Regis	8	41
SOUTH PETHERTON	7	36
CHARD A	9	30
MARTOCK A	8	28

Division 2	Pld	Pts
Sherborne B	10	73
Somerton A	10	58
MARTOCK B	8	44
Beaminster A	8	40
Yeovil B	8	37
Wincanton	8	24
CHARD B	8	24

Division 3	Pld	Pts
MISTERTON A	7	51
Weymouth A	6	39
SOUTH PETHERTON B	8	36
Bridport	7	35
Somerton C	6	30
MARTOCK C	8	19

Division 4	Pld	Pts
Yeovil C	8	56
Sutton Montis	7	45
Beaminster B	7	34
MISTERTON B	6	31
Weymouth B	7	27
Somerton C	7	17

Flory: Cadbury set the standard

CHARD Town manager Nik Flory declared himself "Not too disppointed by the result" after Saturday's 2-0 defeat at title-chasing Cadbury Heath.

"They (Cadbury) were by far the best attacking team we have played. We had a game plan that worked pretty well and we caught them a couple of times on the counter, but we were undone by one mistake and one bit of quality.

"We now can gauge how far we have come and what we need to achieve the standards that Cadbury Heath set.

"I am never one to use missing players as an excuse but I would like to play them with my first 11.

"We were missing Mark Scott, Sam Spurway , Gary McAuley and Sam Clarke – four big players to miss.

"As we head into February Adam (Fricker, Assistant manager) and I have set this as a successful month. Not taking anything away from our upcoming opponents - but with two home games and the two away games against sides in the lower half of the table we expect to try and get as many points as possible," said Flory.

Chard entertain Keynsham Town tomorrow looking to avenge a 4-3 defeat in the reverse back in September. "Anyone who watched us play them earlier in the season saw an entertaining end-to-end game of football, with Keynsham just showing a bit more belief and desire to win the match, they are a bit like ourselves on their day - they can beat anyone in the league, it is just getting that consistency and producing those performances week-in-week-out," said Flory.

The Chard boss who was impressed by 17-year-old debutant Ryan Parris at right-back last weekend has named the following squad for tomorrow's match; *Stu Parris, Ryan Peacock, Adam Fricker, Gary Knight, Mark Scott, Sam Johnson, Jamie Barfoot, Dan Cleal, Gary Spiller, Andy Martin, George Chlopecki, Nath Warren, Liam Cleal, Chris Gardner, Sam Clarke, Dave Duarte, Luke Finn.*

Table (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gillingham Tn	24	15	3	6	61	39	48
Cadbury Hth	20	14	5	1	54	19	47
Melksham Utd	22	14	5	3	47	23	47
Calne Town	23	12	7	4	36	19	43
Bradford Town	25	10	8	7	51	32	38
CHARD TOWN	25	10	6	9	44	36	36
Keynsham Tn	24	9	9	6	36	31	36

SOMERSET LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE
ILMINSTER Town could, on paper, be classed as title favourites in the Somerset Division One. But realistically with only five points separating the top 10 teams it's far too close to call.

The Blues did their cause some good last Saturday as striker Alex Paul took his league tally to 13 in 15 appearances with two second-half goals in a 2-1 win at Saltford.

"We've made an effort to become much tighter when we get ahead and did this perfectly on Saturday," said player-manager Darren Manley.

Manley is also pleased to see his squad take on a more settled look: "I've been able to name more or less the same group for the last four matches - it makes a difference". Ilminster travel to Shepton Mallet tomorrow expecting a repeat of the tight game which ended in 2-2 draw at the Rec three weeks ago.

"They'll be understandably worrying about relegation and may bring in a couple," said Manley

Table (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Weston St J	21	11	2	8	54	42	35
ILMINSTER	19	10	4	5	44	29	34
Cleeve West	21	10	3	8	36	28	33
Larkhall Res	20	10	3	7	38	36	33
Purnells	20	9	5	6	43	33	32
Yatton Ath	20	10	2	8	49	40	32

DIVISION TWO (WEST)
AFTER a weekend off Combe St Nicholas return to action with a mouth-watering second vs third clash with Banwell at Slades Cross.

Table (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wrington Red	16	11	2	3	45	16	35
Banwell	15	11	1	3	40	23	34
COMBE St NIC	16	10	2	4	35	21	32
Churchill Club	15	8	4	3	37	21	28

DEVON & EXETER LEAGUE
DIVISION TWO
DEFENSIVE errors cost Chard Town Reserves dear as their promotion hopes received a set-back with a 5-3 home defeat at the hands of lowly Elmore.

Skipper Joe Carbin gave the Robins an early lead but the Eagles struck twice to edge ahead before Greg Chinning made it 2-2 at the interval.

Another double-strike from visitors left Chard trailing 4-2 and their cause wasn't helped when Carbin blazed a penalty over the crossbar after Channing had been fouled.

Steve Every did reduce the arrears from close range after Joe Simmons' header had been cleared off the line.

But Darren Stewart's side conceded again in the 93rd minute after they were caught on the break whilst chasing an 11th hour equaliser.

Table (top)	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tiverton Res	14	13	1	0	55	12	40
CHARD RES	16	8	5	3	30	21	29
Westexe Rov	14	7	3	4	27	18	24
Topsham Town	13	7	1	5	42	22	22

ON THE SPOT...

WEEKENDER SPORT* puts Drimpton FC's MARK BRUNT *UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

Q How long have you been involved in local football?
A I've been involved for 14 years with six PSDL Clubs; Misterton, Haselbury, Millwey Rise, Luso-Chard, Winsham United and Drimpton. I am also currently Fixtures Secretary for the PSDL.

Q Name the best three players you played alongside?
A **Simon Douglass** (Winsham) by no means the best footballer I've played with but would lay his body on the line for the Club week in week out. **Ian 'Herman' Hall** (Millwey Rise) a real leader who's reading of the game made defending look effortless. **Clive Wakely** (Misterton) a true gent, on and off the pitch, I can't remember Clive having a bad game whatever position he played in.

Q What is the best away ground you've played on?
A As a Plymouth Argyle fan the best ground I've played at has to be Home Park. Within the PSDL I like the fact that every ground is unique and each one brings a different challenge

Q Do any games stick in your memory?
A Millwey Rise 1-0 v Dowlish & Donyatt, 2006-07 Jack Venn Cup Final – I helped Millwey retain the Cup as we edged an end-to-end game thanks to Shane Featherstone's second-half penalty. The 2009 Perry Street U18s 3-1 Bristol U18 League, Durnford Cup Final – after being on the sidelines for three inter-league final defeats in two seasons it was fantastic to share in Manager Gary Bealey's squad clinching the cup for the first time in over 40 years.

Q How would you improve things at Drimpton FC?
A We're lucky to have people like Tony Francis who have committed years to Drimpton. Whilst individuals like this are true of small clubs in any sport they are too often taken for granted. We have a great spirit at the club but sometimes there's a tendency to rely on the same few to get things done. More commitment is needed from everyone to help ensure a future for our club.

Q Can you recommend some young players we should look out for in the future?
A There is always a wealth of young talent in the PSDL but we're lucky to have two outstanding 16 year olds at Drimpton in **Callum Preston** and **Jordan Watts**.

NEXT WEEK:
Ilminster Town's Andy 'Eric' Fish

SCRUM-DOWNRUGBY round-up

with Keith Jenkin

Crucial month ahead for Chard

Having spent the last few weeks journeying to the East on a Saturday afternoon, I decided to travel to the West on Saturday last to take in the Cornwall & Devon League promotion clash between Honiton and Hayle.

CHARD 65
BRISTOL HARLEQUINS 5

TO say that normal service was resumed by the Chard side would be supercilious, and would certainly be a slight to their opponents who competed until the end.

It was important for home confidence however that the side should win, and win well, and it did just that.

Within two minutes of the start Chard drove to the Harlequins' line and won a penalty that Nicholls converted to give his side the lead.

They then conceded several penalties as they settled, and for 10 minutes gave little warning of what was to come. Their forwards were getting on top however and, around the 15 minute mark, they again drove to their opponents' line for flanker Hellier to touch down.

They drove again straight from the restart and this time Mouland got over for Nicholls to convert and, at 15-0 ahead, Chard had pulled clear.

Harlequins did assay a counter of their own but got turned over on halfway. Chard ran the ball back, switched play and Wagstaff sold a dummy and ran to the posts.

Nicholls again converted and his side secured the bonus point before the game was half an hour old when Douglas, playing in the unaccustomed position of full-back, jinked his way over.

Another try came before the break. Centre Twigg scored it after another bout of home pressure, and Nicholls' conversion took the score to 34-0 in Chard's favour by the halfway stage.

It was more of the same throughout the second period. Within a couple of minutes of the restart Douglas had broke and scored for Nicholls to add the extras and, at 41-0 ahead, Chard now rang the changes.

Home pressure on the Harlequins line was constant and former Martock captain Parsons got on the scoreboard by scoring two tries. Nicholls converted one of them to hoist his side's half-century and then Chard scored a try that would grace any match.

Running the ball from their own line they spun it wide. The inside offload came and, after the ball had passed through several pairs of hands, Douglas was on hand to complete his hat-trick by touching down by the poles.

Nicholls again converted and, after another bout of pressure, hooker Hendy dived over to complete the scoring with what was, in all probability, his first touch of the game.

Credit to Harlequins however - they never gave up under the home onslaught and, at the last, they caught Chard napping with a quick tap and got over in the corner.

The missed conversion kick was the last action of the game and Chard had won a game during which they had played some outstanding rugby.

CREWKERNE 8 CHARD 2nd 5

THIS was a traditional, physical and attritional local derby.

For the most part it was evenly contested and play took place in midfield. The home side played down the slight Henhayes slope during the first period and fell behind to an unconverted try, touched down by winger Terry Chard.

They now had it all to do but equalised midway through the second-half after winning set scrummage ball. Their centres held the ball up for number eight Scott Johnson to loop them, find a gap and gallop over.

The try remained unconverted but a subsequent penalty goal, kicked by Dan Godfrey, took the home side into the lead.

It continued to be "nip and tuck" until the whistle for no side however. Crewkerne suffered a setback when influential half-back Harris was stretchered off with a suspected back problem that was subsequently proved to be less serious than feared.

The Chard side had its problems also, one of their pack being consigned to the bin for blasphemy! In the end Crewkerne held on for a win that they will certainly cherish, while Chard were left bemoaning a result that will dent their promotion hopes.

The Chard third side, while not being entirely displeased with its performance, still lost 29-17 to promotion hopefuls, Burnham-on-Sea seconds.

PREVIEW

THE month of February is going to be a pretty tough one for the CHARD first side and their entire season hangs on just how well they cope with the challenges of the next four weeks.

It starts on Saturday when they visit BURNHAM ON SEA whom they narrowly beat earlier in the season when they were really feeling their way in the new division.

Now, with their campaign well into its second-half, they sit in top spot, having done well indeed so far.

Burnham represents a very real challenge, and is the first of several. When the going gets tough however, the tough get going.

Chard will need to do just that, and not just on Saturday, but in the weeks to come.

CREWKERNE are also on the road. They travel to MINEHEAD BARBARIANS 2nd, a side whom they demolished earlier.

The Henhayes side scored some 50 points on that occasion and, although this result will be closer, they should win this one comfortably.

The Chard second side too have a game that they should win when Morganians visit. Having said that however Chard did not have things all their own way in the earlier encounter, finally scraping home 17-12.

Morganians have done little to suggest that they can cause an upset however and I think a bonus point win is on the cards here.

Chard thirds take on CASTLE Cary 2nd at the Crewkerne Road, having won by a single point back in the autumn. I think that they too will come out on top, although a four try bonus point might well be beyond them.

Tomorrow's fixtures

Chard v Burnham on Sea (away); Chard 2nd v Morganians; Chard 3rd v Castle Cary 2nd; Crewkerne v Minehead Barbarians 2nd (away).

TRIBUTE WESTN N	Pd	Pts
CHARD	**17**	**74**
Old Centralians	17	69
Matson	18	66
Hornets	18	56*
Keynsham	18	53
Burnham-on-Sea	18	53*
Barton Hill	18	51
North Bristol	18	48
Cirencester	18	39
Bristol Harlequins	17	34
Whitehall	17	22
Yatton	18	17
Stroud	18	10
Gordon League	18	8

(* adjusted)

TRIBUTE SOM 2 (Sth)	Pd	Pts
N.Petherton II	16	75
CHARD II	**16**	**70**
CREWKERNE	**17**	**65**
Cheddar Valley	17	63
Minehead Barbar II	16	48
Somerton	16	36
Wiveliscombe II	16	32*
Taunton III	16	31
Tor II	17	30*
Ivel Barbarians II	17	24*
Morganians	16	18
Bridgwater & Alb III	16	13*
Martock	16	5

(* adjusted)

TRIBUTE SOM 3 (Sth)	Pd	Pts
Burnham-on-Sea II	10	46
Wyvern	10	42
Wells III	10	31
CHARD III	**8**	**28**
North Petherton III	10	15
Tor III	9	14*
Castle Cary II	10	9*
Minehead Barbar III	9	8
Wellington III	10	-10*

(* adjusted)

■ **'QUINS CLIPPED: Chard returned to winning ways with a 65-5 demolition of Bristol Harlequins last Saturday. Left, skipper Mark Parsons bursts through for one of his two tries whilst Ryan Helliar (right) is held-up short of the line. *Photos by KEITH RENDELL***

Glovers In Focus

By Stuart Broom

Glovers show sparkle in victory

GRAHAM Westley last visited Yeovil Football Club as manager of Farnborough Town in September 2002 when the Glovers had taken temporary residence at Dorchester Town's Avenue Stadium.

That night he was sent to the stands by referee Rob Lee, and then controversially refused to sit down when there were no seats available in the area.

On Saturday he was just as animated in the dugout in his new appointment as manager of Preston North End, but this time it was not him, but his defender Craig Morgan that was dismissed after just two minutes for pulling back Andy Williams as he broke through on goal. Gary Johnson's side went on to win 2-1 to lift themselves out of the relegation zone.

There was no arguing with Morgan's dismissal, even Westley agreed he had to go.

But Yeovil will be hoping their appeal against Paul Huntingdon's red card three minutes from normal time is successful.

Not only because it looked like a clean, albeit fierce, tackle by the skipper, but also because the loss for at least three games will be colossal with only Bondz N'Gala as the only other recognised central defender.

The club has plenty of full-backs including loanees Joe Edwards and Ryan Dickson who have been impressive in their games so far, but with Max Ehmer, Paul Watton and Darren Purse now left the club they are struggling for a replacement who can play in the centre of defence.

Whether Johnson will delve into the transfer market before it closes, or wait until the loan market opens again next week remains to be seen, but unless the appeal against

But red card exposes shortage

the sending off, which was submitted on Monday is successful, Johnson could face a problem.

Maybe Curtis Haynes-Brown could be the answer? Having played one league game against Sheffield United back in late August, the tall, quick defender has yet to start another.

Although he was red carded for a second yellow card in the dying seconds which meant he lost his place to suspension, and despite being named Man-of-the-Match for a brilliant performance, he has not featured since, except on rare occasions on the subs bench.

It would appear that former manager Terry Skiverton did not rate him that highly; preferring his veteran assistant-manager Nathan Jones; and so far Johnson has also taken that route, although he did substitute Jones at half-time in the defeat at Bury.

Maybe there are other reasons why he has not been selected of which I would obviously not be aware, but it appears from what we have seen so far it might be worth giving it a go?

Despite the fact that they only had 10 men to beat, once the Glovers got into gear they played some delightful stuff and brought the sparkle that has been missing since Johnson left for Bristol City.

Andy Williams looked sharp up front whilst Gavin Williams looked back to his best following his long injury, playing his namesake in for both his goals.

There is no doubt Johnson's return has given Huish Park a buzz and his style of football is certainly pleasing to the eye.

However, despite criticism for being negative from some quarters for my last piece two weeks ago, I reiterate that it will not be easy.

There is not much between most of the teams in the league as can be seen from recent results.

But if anybody can lift the club's fortunes I suggest we have the right man at the helm.

skittlesround-up

Crewkerne League

Division 1	Pld	Pts
Lost Boys	13	116
Disney	13	116
Super Sexy Six	13	101
Head Hunters	13	95
Muddled Men	13	86
The Fryers	13	83
Coachmen	13	75
King Willy Dogs	13	75
Royal Oak Drimp	13	66
Football Club	13	44
Rug Rats	13	43
Rollers	13	36

Division 2	Pld	Pts
Concorde	12	90
Nomads	12	81
Swan Fokkers	12	79
Sports 92	12	72
Pinbusters	12	71
Skimmers	12	70
Raptors	12	68
Brewers Bees	11	65
Perrott Monkeys	12	62
Loud & Proud	11	62
Stray Cats	12	60

Division 3	Pld	Pts
Club Fixers	12	107
Merriott Men	12	97
Willy Low Flyers	12	81
Con Club Legnds	11	79
Muppets	12	78
Beer Leg Boys	12	70
Hung Like Horses	12	65
Sandbaggers	12	64
The Numpties	12	57
Kings Head B	12	43
Chis Colts	11	36

Ilminster League

RESULTS;

Division One - Hatch Beagles 372-10 (P.Watts 54) Carnival Clingons 356-2 (M.Lee 53), Nomads 346-10 (R.Barnes 50) Bell & Crown 312-2 (L.Prouse 44), Flying Turkeys 301-2 (S.Spurway 44) Royal Oak Faces 310-10 (M.Miller 45), Cricketers 386-12 (M.Vickery 56) Royals 353-0 J.Miles 52).

Division Two - Donyatt BC 352-9 (K.Kneeshaw 60) Bell A 345-3 (S.Hooper 59), Wyndham Arms 327-5 (A.Carnell 48) King's Head 327-7 J.Shorting 51).

Division A	Pld	Pts
Royal Oak Faces	9	64
Carnival Clingons	9	72
Hatch Beagles	9	67
Nomads	9	56
Ashill Inn	8	55
Flyings Turkeys	9	48
Bell & Crown	9	40
Royals	9	37
Cricketers	9	35

Division B	Pld	Pts
Ashill Boys	7	70
Rocky's Rollers	7	67
Bell A	8	58
Wyndham Clangers	7	48
King's Head	8	42
Wyndham Arms	8	30
Donyatt BC	8	27
Hatch Eggs	7	17

STREET SCENE

HOWARD LARCOMBE
reporting on the Perry Street League

Injuries hit Perry Street survival hopes

Thursday, January 26th
JOHN FOWLER CUP FINAL (at Bridport)
LUSO-CHARD 2 WAYTOWN HOUNDS 4
WITH over 120 people watching at Bridport's St Mary's ground, Waytown Hounds got off to the perfect start after just 60 seconds when Matt Read curled home a superb right shot.

But Luso were back on level terms after 15 minutes when a mix-up in the Hounds' defence allowed Polish striker Artur Jacaszak to fire home.

The Hounds restored the lead on the half-hour when Steve White played in Danny Dunford who hammered a right foot shot into corner.

But the goal of the match arrived 10 minutes after the restart when a good team move allowed Menaldino to tee himself up with his left foot before picking out the top right corner with his right.

But Luso would not lie down and after a spell of pressure Tom Rutland unluckily diverted a Jacaczak shot into this own net to reduce the arrears to 3-2.

The game was decided with 15 minutes left on the clock, Read slid the ball though to Menaldino who bagged his second.

SATURDAY'S CUPS ROUND-UP
CHALLENGE CUP - QUARTER-FINALS
CREWKERNE 4 FARWAY UNITED 2
CREWKERNE recovered from losing both full-backs, Barry Hayne and Ash Larcombe through injury inside 15 minutes to earn a place in the semi-finals.

Lee Banks gave the hosts a slender half-time lead before Ben Williams leveled for Farway early in the second-half.

But Harry Charles, substitute Adam Swinnerton and top-scorer Ed Butcher put daylight between them and the visitors.

The Devonians pulled back a late consolation through Andy Diamond as Crewkerne had Kev Wheeler red-carded by referee Jim Jowatt for an elbowing offence.

SOUTH PETHERTON 2 PERRY STREET 0
PERRY Street had a day to forget as they not only crashed out of the Challenge Cup but also ended the day with 10 men for the last 25 minutes and two men in hospital nursing potentially long-term leg injuries.

Goalkeeper Mike Barry suffered a knee cartilage injury in the warm-up and looks set to be out for several weeks.

Mothers' Player-manager Ian Hilton took over between the sticks but was powerless to prevent Dean Smith scoring both goals which booked Pethy a home semi-final with Crewkerne Town.

Street's afternoon got even worse in the second-half as Danny Wiseman had a penalty saved by Magpies''keeper James Smith and Ryan Mason suffered a broken fibula.

■ **KEEPER'S**: Lyme Regis goalkeeper Ashley Caddy collects a high ball under pressure from Combe Reserves' midfielder Wayne Behan

LYME REGIS 8 COMBE RES 0
LYME Regis eased through after crushing Combe Reserves 8-0 at the Davey For. The game was all over by half-time with the Seasiders six up with the Premier Division's top-scorer Joe Bond netting a hat-trick.

BEAMINSTER 2 ILMINSTER RESERVES 3
TWO Dave Penn goals couldn't save Beaminster from crashing out of the competition as they saw a 2-1 half-time lead overturned by the battling Blues with Craig Rice, Chris Bussell and Mike Whitfield, his eighth of the season, bagging the goals.

◆ **SEMI-FINAL DRAW** (March 3rd); *South Petherton v Crewkerne Town, Lyme Regis v Ilminster Town Reserves.*

KENNY HODGES CUP - QUARTER-FINALS
A FOURTH successive clean sheet saw cup favourites Ilminster A book a semi-final clash with Thorncombe Reserves after Ben Brister, Tom Callow, Nathan Davenport and Luke Woodard scored the goals in a 4-0 away win over Chard United Reserves.

For Woodard it was probably his last appearance for some time as he is due to undergo knee surgery.

Thorncombe booked their place courtesy of goals from Josh Rolfe and Wayne Stanton in a 2-0 win at Chard Rangers Reserves.

The other semi-final will feature Crewkerne Rangers Reserves at Lyme Regis Bantams.

Rangers, with Scott Isaacs and Kerry Cabell on target squeezed past Farway United Reserves while Pete Peacock scored all six goals as Lyme beat Hawkchurch Reserves 6-2.

◆ **SEMI-FINAL DRAW** (March 17th); *Thorncombe Res v Ilminster A, Lyme Regis Bantams v Crewkerne Rangers Reserves.*

LEAGUE SUMMARY
WITH no Premier Division fixtures **Division One** took the spot-light, and there was one major surprise as Misterton's hopes of an immediate return to the top division were dented by a 4-2 defeat at lowly Barrington.

Guy Dare, Alex Thompson, Scott O'Halloran and Rob Luxton scored for the hosts with Johnny Jackson and Ricky Smith on target for Misterton who saw their eight-game winning run perish.

Misterton's loss was the top twos gain as Shepton Beauchamp won 4-0 at Forton Rangers with goals from Sam Hawkins, Dan Smith, John Brister and Kris Hastings. Meanwhile title favourites Millwey Rise put double figures past Perry Street Reserves for the second time this season as Terry Emmett scored a hat-trick in a 10-0 win at Tatworth.

Elsewhere Jamie Burt and Joe Kingman scored the goals as Norton and Ilmisnter Colts slugged out a 1-1 draw at the foot of the table.

There were plenty of goals in **Division Two**. Doomed Hinton conceded 10 without reply at Pymore while Chard Rangers went down 5-0 at Uplyme.

Misterton Reserves also had a day to forget as Lee Mears scored twice in Dowlish & Donyatt's 7-0 win which takes them back to the top spot.

There was a tight encounter at Horseshoe Lane where an early Stuart Packer strike for Thorncombe was trumped by goals on the stroke of half-time from Dan Rogers and Jake Russell as South Petherton Reserves edged a 2-1 win.

In **Division Three** leaders Chard United were topped by a Keith Forsey goal at in-form Millwey Rise Reserves.

This result will have boosted West & Middle Chinnock Reserves who pouched three more points with Mark Cawley scoring twice in a 3-1 win at Shepton Reserves.

At the other end of the table Adam Chant scored a hat-trick as Drimpton edged away from the drop zone with an impressive 5-1 win over Luso-Chard who may just have been recovering from their John Fowler Cup Final defeat less than 48 hours previously.

■ **GOAL**: Defender Matt Laing wheels away after scoring Lyme Regis' fifth goal in Combe Reserves' 8-0 Challenge Cup quarter-final defeat at the Davey Fort on Saturday.
Photos by JON MATTHEWS

Combe A did their survival hopes no harm at all with Warren Gabbidon and Ross Bicknell scoring in the last six minutes to cancel out Andrew Foote's first-half strike for Winsham Reserves.

Forton Reserves dropped two places after they were thrashed 6-0 in the relegation six-pointer at Hawkchurch United.

◆ ***NETHERBURY are sad to announce the passing of long-serving Club President Brian Richards.***

"He was a fantastic servant to the club and will be sorely missed. Everyone at the club would like to pass on their condolences to his family," said a club spokesman.

CHARD RANGERS have a new man in the manager's hot-seat. Justin Mason has returned to the role after previous incumbant Darren Murphy stepped down.

CHARD UNITED having lost Marco Quedas back to his native Portugal and David Duarte to neighbours Chard Town have signed George Chiricea from Luso-Chard to boost their push for promotion from Division Three.

The 25-year-old Romanian is expected to go straight into the United for tomorrow's trip to Forton Rangers Reserves.

TOMORROW'S PREVIEW
WEST & Middle Chinnock face what could prove to be one of their most crucial games of the season when Farway United visit Oxleaze.

The East Devonians, along with Merriott Rovers and Perry Street, are one of three teams which the Chinnocks can realistically hope to overhaul if they are to maintain their Premier status.

Farway's continued poor form on their travels may present Nick Eckland's side with an opportunity to end a run of six straight defeats.

Merriott for their part are without a win in five months - it would take a brave man to bet on them ending that run at South Petherton.

Perry Street could clamber above Merriott with victory over Combe Reserves at Tatworth. But with influential pair Ryan Mason and Mike Barry sidelined after last Saturday's defeat the onus will shift on the Saints to move further into midtable.

With Beaminster inactive, a 3-0 win over Crewkerne at Baker's Field would take Winsham United back up to second in the table - Winsh manager Phil Loaring would probably be happy with any sort of win against a Tigers team that have collected seven points from their last three league games.

Meanwhile Ilminster Reserves are the lastest team faced with bringing an end to leaders Lyme Regis' winning run which now stretches to 19 matches in all competitions.

Match of the day is in Division One where it would appear Misterton must become the first team to beat Millwey Rise at Harry's Field if they are to stay in contention for a promotion place.

The other three games all concern sides fighting against relegation with Ilminster Colts at Lyme Regis Reserves, Perry Street Reserves at Beaminster and Barrington and Norton going head-to-head up on Shellway Lane.

In **Division Two** both Dowlish & Donyatt and Crewkerne Reserves should have little difficulty in making further progress at the top when they entertain Hinton and Charmouth respectively.

Meanwhile, anything but a win for Thorncombe over Pymore will probably result in Gary Parsley's side facing up to another season in Division Two.

There's a top versus (almost) bottom clash in **Division Three** with Chard United travelling to Forton Rangers Reserves. But with just two defeats in seven outings Forton are showing signs of improvement.

It's almost a year and 10 games since Winhsam United Reserves tasted victory on their travels. Could tomorrow bring that run to an end? The Winsh take on Luso-Chard for the fourth time this season with the score currently standing at 2-1 to the immigrant workers' side.

Game of the day in **Division Four** is at Slades Cross where Combe B entertain Chard United Reserves with both teams looking to correct some faltering form if they are to stay in title contention with current leaders Ilminster A who entertain Crewkerne Rangers Reserves.

FIXTURES - (all 2.30pm unless stated)

Reg Eglon Cup – R1
Chard Rangers Res v Farway United Res (*2pm*)
PREMIER
Farway United v West & Middle Chinnock
Ilminster Town Reserves v Lyme Regis
Perry Street v Combe Reserves
South Petherton v Merriott Rovers
Winsham United v Crewkerne Town
DIVISION ONE
Barrington v Norton Athletic
Beaminster Res v Perry Street Reserves
Lyme Regis Reserves v Ilminster Town Colts
Millwey Rise v Misterton
DIVISION TWO
Crewkerne Town Reserves v Charmouth
Dowlish & Donyatt v Hinton
Thorncombe v Pymore
Uplyme v Crewkerne Rangers
DIVISION THREE
Forton Rangers Reserves v Chard United
Luso-Chard v Winsham United Reserves
Shepton Beauchamp Res v Millwey Rise Res
Waytown Hounds v Hawkchurch United
West & Middle Chinnock Res v Combe A
DIVISION FOUR
Combe B v Chard Utd Reserves
Hawkchurch United Res v Thorncombe Res
Ilminster Town A v Crewkerne Rangers Reserves
Lyme Regis Bantams v Barrington Reserves

AS THEY STAND

PREMIER	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lyme Regis	12	12	0	0	62	14	36
Beaminster	13	9	2	2	34	14	29
Winsham Utd	13	8	2	3	37	24	26
Ilminster Res	10	6	2	2	21	17	20
Crewkerne T	10	5	3	2	32	15	18
S Petherton	9	4	2	3	23	16	14
Combe Res	13	3	4	6	19	35	13
Farway United	12	3	1	8	25	35	10
Merriott Rovers	12	2	2	8	13	42	8
Perry Street	13	1	2	10	24	48	5
W&M Chinnock	12	1	2	9	16	45	5

DIV ONE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Shepton Beau	13	10	3	0	34	10	33
Millwey Rise	11	10	0	1	52	10	30
Forton Rangers	14	9	1	4	38	26	28
Misterton	13	8	2	3	32	24	26
Netherbury	15	7	1	7	36	33	22
Lyme Regis Res	14	7	1	6	22	31	22
Beaminster Res	12	3	2	7	25	29	11
Perry Street Res	12	3	2	7	17	40	11
Barrington	12	3	1	8	23	27	10
Norton Athletic	14	2	2	10	17	42	8
Ilminster Colts	12	1	1	10	15	39	4

DIV TWO	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dowlish & Don	15	8	4	3	48	28	28
S.Pethertn Res	11	8	2	1	43	21	26
Crewkerne Res	11	8	1	2	35	18	25
Pymore	14	8	0	6	54	31	24
Uplyme	14	6	4	4	51	27	22
Chard Rangers	13	6	4	3	30	28	22
Thorncombe	13	6	2	5	36	31	20
Crewk Rangers	12	4	1	7	29	36	13
Charmouth	13	2	3	8	21	42	9
Misterton Res	12	2	3	7	23	52	9
Hinton	14	1	0	13	13	69	2*

DIV THREE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chard United	13	9	2	2	34	18	29
Waytown Hnds	12	8	2	2	39	20	26
W&M Chinn Rs	12	7	1	4	50	39	22
Millwey Res	13	6	3	4	43	36	21
Luso-Chard	13	5	1	7	36	36	16
Combe A	10	4	3	3	26	28	15
Hawkchurch	13	3	4	6	37	36	13
Drimpton	14	3	4	7	38	52	13
Winsham Res	11	3	3	5	28	32	12
Forton Rees	12	3	3	6	25	50	12
Shepton Res	13	3	2	8	22	31	11

DIV FOUR	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ilminster A	12	9	1	2	51	15	28
Chard Utd Res	14	8	2	4	40	38	26
Thorncombe Rs	11	7	3	1	29	13	24
Combe B	12	7	2	3	36	19	23
Barrington Res	11	5	4	2	38	22	19
Farway Utd Res	11	5	4	2	29	19	19
Lyme Bantams	11	6	0	5	40	23	18
Crewk Rang Rs	13	4	1	8	37	43	13
Uplyme Ress	14	4	1	9	25	69	13
Hawkchurch Rs	12	1	1	10	22	54	4
Chard Rang Res	12	1	1	10	20	52	4

(* = Points deducted)

leadingscorers

***Premier**: J.Bond (Lyme Regis) 27, R.Hebditch (Ilminster Town, 19 for S.Pethn) 19, Ad Caddy (Lyme Regis) 17.*
***Division One**: S.Dibling (Millwey Rise) 30, T.Emmett (Millwey Rise) 29, J.Hunter (Beaminster Res) 21 .*
***Division Two**: S.Packer (Thorncombe) 20, L.Mears (Dowlish & Donyatt) 17, P.Gold (Crewkerne Res), D.Rogers (S.Pethn Res) 14.*
***Division Three**: T.Menaldino (Waytown Hounds) 27, A.Cooper (W & M Chinnock Res)16, I.Costa (Luso-Chard) A.Chant (Drimpton) M.Cawley & D.Rudge (both W & M Chinnock Res)13.*
***Division Four**: P.Peacock (Lyme Bantams) 32, B.Brister (Ilminster A) 13, G.Jenkins) Ilminster A), I.Banfield (Chard Utd Res) 11.*

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These images are a general representative of Warner Leisure Clubs. Facilities will vary from site to site. Call the Club for more details.

Cricket St. Thomas Hotel, Chard, Somerset, TA20 4DD

Warner Leisure Hotels

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